TRADE AND INDUSTRY

31 May 1973 Volume 11 No 9 10p

Public procurement within the European Economic Community

First session of the UK/Czechoslovak Joint Commission

Price Commission decisions

Statistics on vehicle production, textiles and man-made fibres

Guide to the Department of Trade and Industry

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Due to circumstances beyond editorial control this issue of *Trade and Industry* has been restricted in size. A certain amount of material has, therefore, been held over. We apologise to readers for any inconvenience.

***New Technology:* publication of this monthly supplement to *Trade and Industry* has been discontinued.**

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Public procurement within the European Economic Community

The Community is already embarked on a programme of legislation on public purchasing and contracting which, although as yet incomplete, already has some implications for British firms, and will probably have more in the future.

Central and local government purchasing in Community countries, covers a wide variety of requirements, such as stationery and office supplies, police cars, fire engines and other equipment for local-authority services, and works contracts for roads and buildings. The public sector is sometimes taken as including also enterprises providing basic services—power supply, public transport, communications, and the like. The contracts of these enterprises and Government authorities have in the past often been placed with national firms. The central principle of the Community's policy is that public authorities are not to discriminate in their contracting against imports from other Member States. This principle has already been promulgated in various ways in the Treaty of Rome, and in directives under it, subject to certain exceptions for security and other reasons. It carries no implication against suppliers from non-EEC countries.

The Community aims to implement its principles through directives on Government contract procedure, designed to ensure that firms in all Member countries have a practical chance of competing for Government contracts irrespective of the Community country in which they arise. To secure full advantage of Community policies, British firms will need to watch two fronts: they will have to stand ready to explore any opportunities for selling to Continental public authorities which may arise; and they will need to make every effort to remain fully competitive in UK public purchasing, where increased interest by suppliers in other Community countries may develop.

Intra-Community trade

The Commission of the European Communities has estimated that public purchases of goods and services, including the purchases of certain public utilities, may constitute as much as between 5 per cent and 9 per cent of the total economic activity (GNP) of the original six Member States. Intra-Community trade has, however, been comparatively modest in this context. A 1970 report,* which examined in particular the purchasing of French public authorities, for whom statistics were available, concluded that their public purchasing (widely defined) accounted for a significant proportion of total consumption of goods in certain sectors—eg 43 per cent of purchases of buildings and public works, 30 per cent of total purchases of electronic equipment and 8 per cent of total purchases of furniture; but, up to 1967, total purchases from abroad had been under 1 per cent of the total. The figures include defence equipment not within the scope of Community principles. Comparable statistics were not available for the other Member States, where situations will differ; but the Commission thought that a broadly similar situation had existed in other Member States, though the smaller Benelux countries would tend to purchase a greater proportion of their requirements from abroad.

Community directives

The Community has adopted general directives on the liberalisation of public supply contracts and public works contracts, and more detailed provisions on public works contracts; it has under consideration more detailed provisions on public supply contracts; and it is developing ideas about public utilities.†

Directive 70/32 on public supply contracts

Directive 70/32, adopted by the Council in December 1969, lays down a general requirement for non-discrimination. It prohibits measures, imposed by law, regulation or administrative practice, which prevent the supply of imported products from other Member States, which grant domestic products a preference, or which make the supply of imported products more difficult or costly than those of domestic products. Arms and other warlike stores needed for defence purposes are excluded. This general Directive came into force for UK Government authorities, and for Continental authorities in their relationships with UK suppliers, on January 1, 1973.

Directives 71/304 and 71/305 on public works contracting

Directive 71/304, adopted in the summer of 1971, applies the non-discriminatory principle to contracting by Community firms for public works contracts, and came into effect for the UK also on January 1, 1973.

Directive 71/305 goes further and imposes on public authorities certain contracting procedures for issuing invitations to tender and for awarding contracts. It stipulates that, subject to certain exceptions, public works contracts over about £400,000 must be advertised in advance in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, and all Community contractors expressing interest must be granted equal information on those contracts. If, as frequently happens, the contract is to be awarded by selective (and not open) tender, candidates for the tender must be selected on an equal basis, and without regard to nationality, from the firms replying to the published advertisement; and the contract must be awarded on objective

* Industrial policy in the Community: Memorandum from the Commission to the Council, 1970.

† The texts of these directives can be obtained from HMSO. Copies of **Directive 71/305** on works contracting procedure have been supplied to interested subscribers to the Export Intelligence Service.

criteria stated to the competing parties in the contract documents. The Directive also sets out the methods by which the authority awarding the contract may invite interested contractors to demonstrate their technical competence and financial standing.

These contracting procedures became mandatory within the original Community on August 1, 1972, and will become mandatory in this country on July 1, 1973. Contract advertisements have been started to appear in the official Journal, which firms can obtain by direct subscription from HMSO, and they are being relayed on the DTI's export intelligence service. An advisory committee to the Commission has been set up to oversee the operation of the procedures. In this country the Directive will apply essentially to public works contracting at central and local government level, and to certain housing authorities: ‡ nationalised industries are not included.

A proposed Directive on Government supplies contracting procedure

The Commission has proposed a further directive on supplies contracting procedure. This directive follows similar lines to the Public Works Directive (71/305) in requiring the prior advertisement of contracts over a certain value (yet to be determined) and the granting of equal information and equal chances to compete to all interested Community suppliers. It is still in draft and is subject to further consideration by the Commission and the Council; its procedures are unlikely to become operational before late 1974.

Public utilities

Measures relating to public utility purchasing are subject to Community principles, for example in Article 90 of the Treaty of Rome. The Commission has, however, noted that there is ittle intra-Community trade in certain types of heavy capital equipment purchased by such undertakings. Technical barriers to trade are one important factor. The Commission looks for a programme to eliminate obstacles to trade in this area, perhaps based on co-operation among public utilities: but ideas about this are still at an early stage of development.

‡ The Housing Authorities are the New Towns Development Corporations, the Commission for the New Towns, the Scottish Special Housing Associations and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. Water authorities are excluded from the scope of the Directive.

Conclusion

The Community has thus laid down the principle that Community firms should be able to compete without discrimination for the public contracts in all Member States. The main exception, on security grounds, is for armaments and other warlike stores.

The principle is unlikely to change dramatically the practices which purchasing authorities have evolved over the years, and which they will often regard as being in their own best interests. But, in keeping with the general expansion of trade between Member States, the Community is bound to support enlarged intra-Community competition for public contracts. Pressures to improve the access of firms to public contracts in other Member States are therefore to be expected.

Contracting procedures designed to enforce openness in contracting arrangements are at present a reality for no more than a small number of large public works contracts, and, even in public works contracting, arrangements are not yet fully operational. The Commission has put forward a further proposal for procedures for Government supply contracting which might become operational in due course. It is also formulating ideas about public utility purchasing.

The prospects for British firms securing public sector business in other Member Countries will vary widely according to type of product, and exporters will need to study with care the opportunities that will arise under Community rules and procedures. It is hoped that such opportunities will be of interest; and that British firms will decide not to wait for Community competitors to make the running.

One of eight Leyland LV45 buses supplied to the municipal transport authority at Perpignan, France. A further four buses are on order from the British Leyland Motor Corporation.

New EC legislation

The legislation listed below has now been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies may be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as exports are concerned, is available from Department of Trade and Industry, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: The texts of the following Regulations and Decisions which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

General. Notice on import and export licences and advance fixing certificates for agricultural products. (*Official Journal* No. C29, May 12, 1973)

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) No. 1237/73 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 1259/72 on the disposal of butter at a reduced price to certain Community processing undertakings. (*Official Journal* No. L128, May 15, 1973)

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) No. 1291/73 introducing a countervailing charge on tomatoes imported from Bulgaria and Romania. (*Official Journal* No. L131, May 18, 1973)

Wines. Notice relating to published list for the application of Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No. 1769/72 setting out the accompanying documents and relating to the obligations of producers and merchants, with the exception of retailers in the wine sector. (*Official Journal* No. C31, May 17, 1973)

UNCTAD GENERALISED PREFERENCES SYSTEM: *Trade and Industry* of February 15, 1973 contained a notice about a number of Regulations setting up tariff quotas and opening tariff preferences for certain products originating in developing countries for the period January 1 to December 31, 1973. The texts of the following Regulations and notices reimposing the Common Customs Tariff Duties on certain of these products have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Common Customs Tariff no.	Description of goods	Country of origin	Full rate of duty payable from	Tariff quota or preference set up by Reg. No.
Notice				
70.13	Glassware (other than articles falling in heading No. 70.19) of a kind commonly used for table, kitchen, toilet or office purposes, for indoor decoration or for similar uses	Yugoslavia	May 12, 1973	2761/72
		(*Official Journal* No. C28, May 11, 1973)		
Regulation (EEC) No. 1294/73				
ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments, of cotton	Developing Countries	May 21, 1973	2764/72
Regulation (EEC) No. 1295/73				
ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments, not of cotton	South Korea	May 21, 1973	2764/72
Regulation (EEC) No. 1296/73				
41.05	Other kinds of leather, except leather falling within heading No. 41.06, 41.07 or 41.08 B. Other II Other	Yugoslavia	May 21, 1973	2762/72
Regulation (EEC) No. 1297/73				
55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale A Multiple or cabled, finished, in balls or on cards, reels, tubes, or similar supports, of a weight (including support) not exceeding 900 g	Pakistan	May 21, 1973	2764/72
Regulation (EEC) No. 1298/73				
70.14.B	Illuminating glassware, signalling glassware and optical elements of glass, not optically worked of optical glass B Other	Hong Kong	May 21, 1973	2762/72
		(*Official Journal* No. L131, May 18, 1973)		

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EEC information—Inquiry points at Customs and Excise headquarters

General inquiries on EEC matters which are the concern of HM Customs and Excise may be made to the following telephone extensions:

HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE Tel: 01-626 1515

		Ext.
Community Transit	European Communities Division—Unit 1	2561/2565
	General inquiries	
	traders A-F	2263
	traders G-N	2561
	traders O-Z	2263
European Communities—general inquiries	European Communities Division—Unit 3	3055
EEC Free Trade Agreements with EFTA countries	International Division —Unit 2	2385/2165
EEC Mediterranean agreements, Anglo-Danish free trade arrangements	International Division —Unit 3	2165
Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement, Channel Islands, Isle of Man	International Division —Unit 3	2504
Compensatory levies	Import Duties— Section 8	2375/2343 2143/2174
Copies of articles on customs preferences, public notices and customs forms on EEC matters	General Services Division—Unit 4	3079/2069

BRITISH OVERSEAS TRADE BOARD

Big market for British consumer goods in Japan

THE British Overseas Trade Board has published a new booklet 'Retail Distribution in Japan' which details the wide scope for British consumer goods in that country. It states: 'Consumer spending is expected to enjoy a particularly high growth in the 1970s and British firms may expect substantial rewards for a determined effort to expand our share of this major market.'

The booklet provides detailed information on the structure and trading patterns of different types of Japanese retail outlets—department stores, supermarkets and speciality shops. The implications and opportunities for British exporters in these different sectors are outlined. For example:

Department stores: 'The potential of the department store as the key sales point for UK consumer goods imports is increasing.'

Supermarkets: 'Careful research will be required to select those British commodities suitable for promotion in supermarkets. These are likely to be in the food, drink, household goods and sporting and leisure categories.'

Diagrams and tables show sales, persons employed and number of outlets in different types of retailing together with information about individual companies and supermarket groups.

'Retail Distribution in Japan' has been prepared for the BOTB by the Japan Advisory Group. The JTAG consists of a number of businessmen who advise the BOTB on export promotion policy in the Japanese market. The chairman is Mr. G. C. Nichols, chairman of Rotaprint Limited. The group may be contacted through the BOTB's Exports to Japan Unit (01-248 5757 ext. 7162).

Opportunities for British capital goods in Israel . . .

BIG opportunities for British capital goods in Israel between now and 1981 are detailed in a Survey published by the British Overseas Trade Board 'Metal Working Industries of Israel—A survey of development trends and requirements of engineering equipment and services'—covers the basic metal industries, metal products, machinery; electric, electronics and transport equipment industries. An appendix suggests development targets for textiles, leather goods, food, paper and paper products, chemicals and other industries.

'Metal Working Industries of Israel', price £2 post free, is available from BOTGI, Michael House, Baker Street, London W1 (01-935 4422 ext. 7477).

. . . and in France for hardware exporters

AN important supplement dealing with British consumer hardware goods is to be published in September by the French trade journal *Quincaillerie Moderne*. Its contents will include do-it-yourself hand tools, garden tools and equipment, domestic electrical machinery, kitchen implements, paint and wall coverings—but this range is not exclusive.

The journal seeks editorial material from British exporters, and commends the supplement as a useful paid advertising medium for those interested in selling to France. Correspondence should be addressed, if possible in the French language and before the end of June, to M Guy Vallee, Quincaillerie Moderne, 106 Boulevard Malesherbes, 75828 Paris CEDEX 17 (Tel. 924.00.60).

ULTRAMAR

Ultramar Company Limited

Highlights from the Statement of the Chairman, Mr. Campbell L. Nelson, at the 37th Annual General Meeting held in London on 18th May 1973

- **The Quebec operation is doing very well. The Refinery should certainly average not less than 100,000 barrels per day for the rest of the year.**
- **Producing and marketing operations and our shipping interests are all doing well.**
- **The Badak Field in Indonesia will be one of the world's large gas and condensate fields. If present negotiations are successful we expect to start getting income from Badak gas and condensate early in 1977 and from oil in 1974.**
- **There will be further drilling this year on the U.K. North Sea Block 16/29 to evaluate the Maureen Field. A well is being drilled on the Dutch sector K9 Block.**
- **We are considering early plans for the raising of a long term loan, without any convertible features, to replace short-term money raised for the Quebec Refinery.**
- **In our Annual Report we indicated an increase in profits for 1973 and a more substantial improvement in 1974. I now believe that this substantial improvement in profits will be showing itself in the second half of this year.**

Copies of the full Statement and the 1972 Report and Accounts are available from the Secretaries of the Company, 1-2 Broad Street Place, London, EC2M 7EP.

S Africa sees 'Good Things from Britain'

From L. D. Clegg, MBE, British Consulate General, Johannesburg: In a joint venture with the DTI, the Greatermans group of departmental stores staged a British store promotion fortnight in April at nine of their branches. Three stores in Johannesburg were involved and one each in Pretoria, Springs, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Bloemfontein and Parow in the Cape. The promotion was thus countrywide and some 60 or so store windows in major centres in South Africa were predominantly devoted to promoting British goods. The theme adopted was 'Good Things from Britain'.

The promotion featured quality merchandise such as china, glassware, pewter, table linen, handbags and woollen fashionwear and also covered food specialities, kitchenware, stationery, fancy goods and souvenirs. Special ordering had of course been done in 1972 in preparation for the promotion.

The form of promotion varied from store to store, depending on the locality, but was generally on a departmental rather than on a store-wide basis. In some stores the bulk of the British goods specially promoted were concentrated in a large boutique type area. In others, specific goods were highlighted at different points throughout the store under displays with titles like 'Dinnerware from Britain', 'The Best Stationery from Britain', 'Fine Foods from Britain'. All the stores offered free red, white and blue candy sticks to all 'little people' during the promotion fortnight.

This venture, first planned in 1971, was handicapped at a critical stage in the planning and buying process by the severe import permit restrictions imposed on consumer goods in 1972. Because of this, the promotion as a whole was unavoidably narrower in scope than originally conceived. Nevertheless, the opinion of the store managers was that the promotion had achieved its object in identifying and selling the types of British consumer goods which are popular in this market. One store reported a 25 per cent increase in business over the same period last year, with even bigger increases in particular departments such as handbags and china and glassware.

It is hoped to follow up this promotion by a similar one in another department chain in 1974.

South Germans hear from British builders

From the British Trade Drive Office, Munich: Eight UK firms took part in a seminar on advanced British building systems, held in the Munich Building Centre on May 9 and 10 as one of the events—and the first of its type—in the current South German Trade Drive. The seminar was sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the London Building Centre Group, whose director-general, Mr. Gontran Goulden, acted as chairman.

Guest speakers who described general developments in the British building industry were Mr. A. W. Cleeve Barr, managing director of the British Building Agency (on the progress of building techniques in the UK), Mr. V. L. Cox, director of the Association of Industrialised Building Component Manufacturers (industrialised building components and international planning) and Mr. P. O. Reece, president of the Truss Plate Association (timber engineering and industrialised building). Seven of the firms taking part gave lectures on such themes as unit building systems, timber connector systems, hospital and school building, wooden roofs and simple frame construction, steel framed structures, low-rise industrial building systems and the role of formwork in system building.

The majority of visitors came from the South German provinces of Bavaria and Baden Wuerttemberg, but others came from elsewhere in Germany, and from Austria and Switzerland. The quality of the audiences was always good.

The seminar was the subject of a special British supplement to a German trade paper, the *Allgemeine Bauzeitung*, and was also mentioned in some 20 other building trade journals.

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Trade & Industrial Translation Centre Ltd.

Dubai, United Arab Emirates: British Building and Construction Exhibition, March 16-23, 1974

PROVIDING there is sufficient response from British manufacturers, the Department of Trade and Industry is prepared to organise an all-British exhibition of building equipment and construction materials in Dubai from March 16-23, 1974. The products to be covered by the event include: building materials and construction equipment, building systems, welding equipment, insulation and cladding equipment, pumps and pumping equipment, pipes and pipe fittings, sanitary ware and electric hand tools, etc. British contractors and consultants are also eligible to exhibit.

The largest domestic market in the Lower Gulf and Oman at present is that for building materials and construction equipment. All the States are using their income from oil revenues to promote specific projects and to develop roads, ports, power stations, hospitals, hotels, housing and schools, etc.

The exhibition will be arranged under the terms of the 'British Pavilion Scheme.'. Further information about the event and the terms of the DTI's assistance can be obtained from D. V. Griffiths, Fairs and Promotions Branch, Department of Trade and Industry, Hillgate House, 26 Old Bailey, London EC4 (Tel: 01-248 5757, Ext. 602). The closing date for applications is July 28, 1973. Prompt application is urged as exhibition space is limited.

Keeler Optical Products' display at the Singapore Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Scientific Meeting and Exhibition, held May 6 to 10. A number of British firms took part as a joint venture sponsored by the British Hospitals Export Council in co-operation with the British Overseas Trade Board. Sales totalling some £15,000 were reported from the UK participants, plus confidence of further sales through agents in Australia and South East Asia. Main attendance stemmed from Australia, but there was representation from all over SE Asia and from the USA.

£400,000 orders from Dortmund show

FIRM orders for British poultry and pig equipment and stock, valued at more than £400,000, were achieved at the Dortmund Westfalenhalle International exhibition in Germany, May 10-13.

Potential export business for the British joint venture group of 23 exhibitors, sponsored by the British Agricultural Export Council in conjunction with the Department of Trade and Industry, is also expected to yield at least a further £200,000 over the next 12 months.

Over 20,000 visitors attended the exhibition with 2,000 from foreign countries. Trade inquiries handled by the British group came from all EEC countries and from Scandinavia, Finland, Canada, Australia, Switzerland, Greece, the Middle East, Spain and South Africa.

EXPORT BUSINESS

BICC shows catenary system in US

THE world's first overhead catenary system, designed for a voltage of 50kV, recently completed a searching demonstration before an audience of more than 100 senior personnel from United States and Canadian railroads.

The occasion was the dedication, by Mr. John W. Ingram, Federal Railroad Administrator, of the 50kV high speed test facility operated by General Electric Company at Erie, Pennsylvania. The visitors saw the first 50kV locomotive in operation. This locomotive is one of three which will operate on the Black Mesa and Lake Powell Railroad, a coal haul line serving a new power plant under construction for Salt River Project.

The catenary, designed by British Insulated Callender's Construction Company, Balfour Beatty Group of BICC, was built under BICC supervision. It extends along 3.4 miles of the East Erie Commercial Railroad, which provides this test facility for General Electric. The catenary can deliver power at various voltages, both d.c. and a.c. The design is based on the highly successful system developed by BICC for British Rail and is good for speeds up to 100 mph.

Gelatin machine for China

WHAT is believed to be the first ever sale of a soft gelatin encapsulating machine to the People's Republic of China has been secured by P. Leiner and Sons, Treforest, Glamorgan. The machine is for use in a government pilot pharmaceutical plant.

Although valued at a modest £50,000, the order could represent an important breakthrough into the potential Chinese market, where many medicines in a coated or compressed tablet form could be gradually replaced with liquids or pastes in soft capsules.

Leiner claims to be the world's only vertically integrated company in its field producing gelatin from its own world-wide raw material sources for use in the pharmaceutical, food, photographic and other industries and manufacturing encapsulating machines for its own use and for sale.

The company's machine sales to date will total 66 by the end 1973 which, together with those operated by the company, represent one quarter of the world's soft capsule capability. In addition to the Chinese order, Leiner will deliver four machines to the USSR later this year valued with spares at £¾ million.

A batch of Glenfield Multi-Disc Check Valves M8 36 in. (900 mm.) being prepared at the Glenfield & Kennedy Works, of Crane Ltd. at Kilmarnock for shipment to Mysore for the city of Bangalore's River Cauvery potable water scheme. The Water, Process & Marine Valves Division of Crane is supplying more than 140 valves, worth some £77,000 of three main types to the scheme. This view of the assembly shop also shows in the background a number of Glenfield Microstrainers for which the company has substantial world-wide orders.

Buoys and beacons: business booms

NAVIGATIONAL aids from AGA are flashing and beaming ashore and in ports and channels throughout the world: fast delivery of a very wide range of products has helped to capture some massive orders for export this year.

Business with Brazil is booming. Last month the port of Vitoria-Tubarao re-opened after extensive improvements to enable it to handle mammoth 60,000 iron ore carriers. A new jetty was built with bulk loading facilities, and the newly dredged channel leading to it was marked with seven AGA lightbuoys and two approach leading lights, type LETA-14. Delivery of this order was completed two days after it left Brentford. The consignment travelled overnight from Dover to Rotterdam and was then flown to Rio de Janeiro.

This month the Republic of Zaire has come to Britain with an order worth £140,000. AGA is to

supply twenty lightbuoys and forty-five shore-based beacons to furnish the Congo (River Zaire) and its estuary with the very latest equipment. The navigational improvements will enable larger ships to berth there.

The buoys are fitted with open flame acetylene lanterns which are controlled by sun valves. The shore beacons are battery operated and will be the first electric ones to be used in this area, previously gas was used. The contract provides for AGA to send experts to Zaire to train local people to handle and service the equipment.

Tufnol bearings for Germany

TUFNOL Ltd. of Perry Barr, Birmingham, have secured a contract to supply a West German mobile crane manufacturer with laminated plastics heavy-duty bearings. The company's ability to engineer a superior product at a competitive price was a major factor in persuading the German manufacturer to change from a domestic product to the British-made bearings.

The bearings are manufactured from a fabric based Tufnol laminate and are designed for grease lubrication: they are situated in the neck and foot of the crane's main column and are subjected to shock loading in use.

Production costs are kept to a minimum by moulding the bearings to their basic shape and machining to final tolerences. The whole production cycle is carried out at the same factory and the bearings are supplied on scheduled deliveries of several hundred per month to meet the requirements of the production line in Germany.

Plessey win East African orders

Two contracts for the supply of radio communications equipment to the East African P.T. and T. Authority—together totalling almost £60,000—have been won by Plessey Radio.

The orders, placed on behalf of the authority by the Crown Agents, are for transmission, relay and reception equipment for the growing East African telecommunications network which relies heavily upon radio links for its long-range, cross-country telephone system.

Equipment to be supplied under the contracts includes a 10-kw transmitter, a 1-kw 10-channel receiver and a phase-lock receiver. Also included is series relay equipment which provides up to 24-speech, data, switching or telemetry channels over a frequency range of 1,427 to 1,535 MHz.

Electric loco equipment for South African Railways

GEC Traction Ltd. has received an order from GEC Engineering (Pty.) Ltd., Johannesburg, covering part of the traction power equipment required for 100 3,200 h.p. locomotives to be constructed for South African Railways by the Union Carriage and Wagon Co. Ltd., of Nigel, Transvaal.

The order from Union Carriage and Wagon Co. is valued at over £6.8 million and includes for the supply of traction motors, main drive gears and control equipment. Some of this equipment will be manufactured in the GEC factories at Knights and Benoni in South Africa and the remainder in the GEC Traction's factories at Manchester, Preston and Sheffield.

When the new locomotives are in service, South African Railways will be operating a fleet of about 1,550 electric locomotives of which over 500 were designed and built in the UK by GEC Traction.

Moulded chairs Australia bound

ARVIN Sales Ltd., a member of A. Arenson (Holdings) Group, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, has sold 15,000 of its Dek-Lounger moulded chairs to Clark Rubber Stores (Pty.) Ltd., of Melbourne, Australia.

The Dek-Lounger range of colourful all-weather, tubular-framed chairs has a danger-proof adjustment mechanism which eliminates the trapped finger hazards of deckchairs.

Three months ahead of schedule

PRISMO Universal Ltd., the traffic engineering division of the Redland Group, has just completed a £265,000 surfacing and marking contract for the Abu Dhabi International Airport—three months ahead of schedule.

The contract, awarded by the Government of Abu Dhabi's Ministry of Public Works on behalf of the Ruler, Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, was for 400,000 sq. m. of slurry sealing and represented the first ever application of this unique surfacing material in the Federation of the United Arab Emirates. The swift completion of the contract owes much to the careful planning and close co-operation between the Ministry and Prismo.

Quick delivery of pumps to Cyprus

EARLY delivery being of paramount importance Pullen Pumps Ltd., of Croydon, Surrey, has despatched three orders for its equipment to Cyprus within a few days of receiving the contracts.

The orders, of the company's 'K' range of close-coupled metric pumps, were placed by mechanical services contractors, Refrigo, of Nicosia. The pumps were for installation in Larnaca Town Hall, the Boghazi Hotel, Famagusta, and the Caryatis Hotel, Famagusta, where they will be used for heating and air conditioning duties.

MISSIONS and TOURS

Hand tool makers invite Australians

THE first Australian Trade Mission to visit Britain at the invitation of the Federation of British Hand Tool Manufacturers is due to arrive at Heathrow Airport, London, on June 30, 1973.

The mission, a party of 20 representing major Australian distributors of hand tools, will spend two weeks in this country visiting 17 factories in the Sheffield and Birmingham areas—the principal centres of production for the British hand tool industry.

It is hoped that the factory visits will enable the Australians to learn more about the industry itself and, in particular, to see how the full weight of modern technology has been applied to the manufacture of its products.

The visit has been organised with the object of strengthening existing trade relationships and increasing the volume of British-made hand tools sold in Australia: this is an important export market for companies in the federation and those receiving the mission are confident that they can satisfy requirements in respect of quality, price and delivery.

This Australian Mission is sponsored by the Department of Trade and Industry in partnership with the Federation and follows highly successful tours by similar trading missions from South Africa, in 1972, and from Canada and Sweden in 1971.

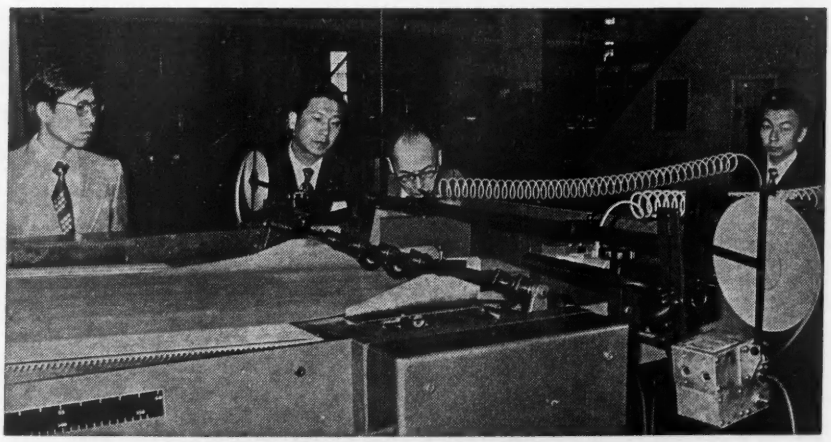
Birmingham Chamber mission in US for talks

A TRADE mission sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry began a two weeks' visit to Texas and California on May 21. In its first week, the twelve-man delegation was based on Dallas, where they took part in World Trade Week, one of the main overseas trade promotional events in the United States, and were guests of honour at the World Trade Week Dinner given by the World Trade Committee of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce.

Leader of the Birmingham Mission is Mr. R. S. Chetland, Chairman and Managing Director of Chetland Industries (Birmingham) Ltd. Before leaving Birmingham for the U.S.A. Mr. Chetland said: 'These two wealthy states of Texas and California have individual economies greater than all but a few nations of the world, and offer a lucrative field for British manufacturers.

'The timing of the Mission is ideal and Britain's present competitiveness over Japanese and West European suppliers to North America as a result of currency re-valuations against the pound sterling mean that we have a head start. Providing we can match delivery and after-sales service—and so far as this Mission is concerned I am sure we can—we are assured of success.'

While in Texas, some of the group also visited Houston and when they moved on to Los Angeles they made calls in San Francisco, San Diego and other centres.



Twenty Japanese businessmen from major paper and packaging concerns paid a visit to Strachan and Henshaw Limited (Printing Press Division) recently. The visit had been arranged by the company's Japanese agents, and is becoming something of an annual event. Picture shows part of the group taking a look at one of the four high speed sheet cutters which are currently on the shop floor being built for Japan. Also destined for Japan is one of the new 1700 series machines 67 in. (1,700 mm) wide.

First session of the UK/Czechoslovak Joint Commission

THE first session of the UK/Czechoslovak Joint Commission was held in London from May 15 to 18. The Czechoslovak delegation was led by Mr. I. Peter, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, who was accompanied by Mr. M. Stur, Vice-Minister of Metallurgy and Engineering and Mr. M. Kubat, Vice-Minister of Technology and Investments.

The British team was led by Mr. B. E. Bellamy, Under-Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry, and included representatives of the East European Trade Council, the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Confederation of British Industry.

In the course of the discussions, the Czechoslovak delegation expressed confidence that the prospects for a growth in British exports were good but warned that the Czechoslovak market was highly competitive and that sales, particularly of plant and machinery, would only be achieved if British industry were able to match the competition. The Czechoslovak aim would be to diversify the composition of her own exports to the United Kingdom which still relied significantly on sales of raw materials.

Both sides were also able to agree on a new programme for co-operation between the two countries. In manufacturing technology the product areas to be studied will cover synthetic fibres, agrochemicals, the transport industry and containerisation. In the field of industrial co-operation, it was agreed to explore the possibilities for co-operation in a number of areas including machine tools, the automotive industry and chemical and petrochemical plant.

Other subjects discussed at the Joint Commission included the effects on trade relations between the two countries of British membership of the EEC and the liberalisation of quantitative controls on Czechoslovak exports to the UK.

During their stay in London, the Czechoslovak delegates called upon Lord Limerick, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, and were also received by Mr. Julian Amery, Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

UK trade with Czechoslovakia in 1972 totalled £55.9 million (Exports £23.7 million, Imports £32.2 million) compared with £45.8 million in 1971 (Exports £19.8 million, Imports £26.0 million).

Signing the Anglo-Czech agreements in the offices of the Department of Trade and Industry in London. Putting pen to paper are Mr. I. Peter, Czech Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade (right), and Mr. B. E. Bellamy, Under-Secretary, DTI. Watching with Lord Limerick, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade (second from left), are (from left): Mr. M. Kubat, Czech Vice-Minister of Technology and Investments, Dr. M. Zemla, Czech Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Mr. M. Stur Czech Vice-Minister of Metallurgy and Engineering.

Imports of polyester cotton textiles from Taiwan

IT has come to the notice of the DTI that the Taiwanese authorities are issuing export certificates for shipments of polyester cotton textiles to the United Kingdom. The attention of importers is drawn to the announcement in *Trade and Industry* on December 14, 1972 which clearly stated that the allocation of the 1973 quota had been made and imports could only be made by those people who had received an allocation. It should be noted that this means import licences for polyester cotton textiles will not be issued against Taiwanese export certificates. Unless an allocation of quota has been received it will not be possible to import polyester cotton textiles from Taiwan in 1973.

Import licensing of potatoes

THE arrangements set out in a Notice in *Trade and Industry* on March 29, page 687, for the issue of licences for imports of maincrop potatoes will continue until June 30, 1973 and thereafter cease.

Correction: The validity date of import licences for maincrop potatoes in the Notice of March 29 should read 'May 31, 1973' not 'May 31, 1974'.

NOTICE TO IMPORTERS

Imports from the Eastern Area

THE following goods may now be imported into the United Kingdom under the authority of the Open General Import Licence (ie without the need of an individual import licence) notwithstanding that they originate in or are consigned from the Eastern Area:

ex 59.09	Textile fabrics coated or impregnated with oil or preparations with a basis of drying oil, of cotton.
59.12	Textile fabrics otherwise impregnated or coated; painted textile fabrics being theatrical scenery, studio backcloths or the like.
ex 59.14	Wicks wholly or mainly of woven cotton.
ex 59.16	Transmission, conveyor or elevator belts or belting, whether or not strengthened with metal or other materials, of cotton.
ex 59.17	Textile products and textile articles of a kind commonly used in machinery or plant, of cotton.

The Eastern Area means Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic and Berlin (East), Hungary, North Korea, North Vietnam, the People's Republic of China, the People's Republic of Mongolia, Poland, Romania and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

THE Department of Trade and Industry is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the Commonwealth or the supply available from these sources is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country or agents of Commonwealth manufacturers who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the Treasury Order in which the materials are specified and normally

(continued on next page)

TEMPORARY EXEMPTIONS
continued

continue until the end of the current calendar year, when they are reviewed.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to Tariff Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown below and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption. Representations should be received by June 14.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
29.14	4,4-Methylenedi-(1-methyl-2-phenoxy-ethyl methacrylate)	S R 346 Propoxylated bisphenol C dimethacrylate	December 31, 1973	14087
29.31	Di-*n*-butyl (methylenedithio)diacetate	Dibutyl methylene bis-thioglycolate	December 31, 1973	14399
30.03	Ampoules containing a measured dose of an intermixture of not less than five different vitamins, for intravenous injection	Multi Vitamin Infusion	December 31, 1973	14260
73.18	Longitudinally welded steel tubes in lengths of not less than 6.5 metres and not more than 8.2 metres having an internal diameter of not less than 39 millimetres and not more than 40 millimetres; an outside diameter of not less than 48 millimetres and not more than 49 millimetres; with a wall thickness of not less than 3.8 millimetres and not more than 4.3 millimetres; containing not more than 0.06 per cent sulphur and not more than 0.06 per cent phosphorous and having a tensile strength of 34.6 Kgf/mm² and a minimum yield stress of 21.3 Kgf/mm²	Scaffold tube	December 31, 1973	14525

NOTE: REVISED DEFINITIONS

Interested parties will wish to know that the definition for Iron and steel wire rods and reinforcing bars (73.10) advertised in *Trade and Industry* on May 3, 1973 has been revised as follows:

73.10 Wire rod (ECSC), of iron or steel and of round section (to run until October 1, 1973)

73.10 Bars and rods of iron or steel, of circular or square cross-section or ribbed, in straight lengths or in coils and not further worked than hot-rolled or extruded; containing not more than 0.25 per cent carbon, not more than 0.06 per cent sulphur and not more than 0.06 per cent phosphorus; in all cases the greatest dimension of the cross-section is not to exceed 44 millimetres and in the case of square cross-section the corners may be either square or rounded (to run until October 1, 1973)

Interested parties will wish to know that the definition for Iron and steel wire rods (73.15) advertised in *Trade and Industry* on May 3, 1973 has been revised as follows:

73.15 Wire rod (ECSC), of high carbon steel and of round section (to run until October 1, 1973)

73.15 Bars and rods of high carbon steel, in coils, not further worked than hot-rolled, of circular cross-section and having a diameter of not less than 13 millimetres and not more than 28.5 millimetres (to run until October 1, 1973)

The lists of Tariff, Customs and Import Regulations changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

BRITISH IMPORTERS CONFEDERATION

The British Importers Confederation was formed in 1972 to help importers and importing Associations with their problems.

The formation of one organisation covering the whole country enables importers to speak nationally on matters of general interest. Problems being dealt with by the Confederation include those connected with shipping, the docks, finance, Customs and Excise and the EEC.

Membership is open to both individual importers and to importing Associations. By joining the Confederation you can help yourself and strengthen the position of importers throughout the country.

There is a branch at Merseyside to cover North-West England.

Enquiries concerning membership to:

69 CANNON STREET
LONDON, EC4N 5AB

TEL: 01-248 4444

Tariff quotas for certain textile products from Cyprus

AN Order which comes into operation on June 1, 1973, has been made providing for the implementation and administration of the United Kingdom's share of two tariff quotas to be opened on that date by the European Economic Community for Imports into the Community of certain textile goods from Cyprus up to December 31, 1973.

The Order specifies the size of the UK share of the tariff quotas and the rates of duty applicable within the quotas as follows:

Tariff heading		Rates of duty	Size of United Kingdom share of tariff quota by weight
56.04	(Man-made fibres discontinuous or waste corded, combed or otherwise prepared for spinning	8%	10 metric tons
61.01	(Men's and boys' outer garments: containing more than 20% by weight of silk, of man-made fibres, or of both together)	£0.2000 per lb. or 16% whichever is the greater	280 metric tons of goods of sub-heading 61.01 (A) (B), or (C) as a whole
61.01	(B) and (C) (Other men's and boys' outer garments)	16%	

Qualifying imports will be debited against the quota in order of entry with Customs for home use. Imports for which Commonwealth preference is claimed and allowed will not be debited against the quotas. (Customs Notice 771 gives information on the administration of Tariff Quotas and inquiries should be directed to any office of HM Customs and Excise.)

Copies of the Order, the Import Duties (Quota Relief) (Cyprus) Order 1973 will be available from HMSO, 49 High Holborn, London WC1 (price 3p) or by post from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 (price 5½p).

Notes

Tariff quotas provide for the import of specified amounts of goods at reduced tariff rates. Any goods in excess of a tariff quota are charged the normal rate. Tariff quotas do not in themselves constitute any quantitative restriction on imports.

Imports of cotton cloth and made-ups from Cyprus are subject to quantitative restriction; details were published in Notice to Importers No. 1379.

United Arab Emirates and Qatar: currency changes

A NEW currency was put into circulation in the United Arab Emirates on May 20, to replace the Bahrain dinar (in Abu Dhabi) and the Qatar/Dubai riyal (in Dubai and the other Northern Emirates). The principal unit of the new UAE currency is the dirham, which is worth the same as the Qatar/Dubai riyal or one-tenth of the Bahrain dinar. The former currencies will remain legal tender for at least six months.

The Qatar/Dubai riyal has been replaced in Qatar by the Qatar riyal. The official rate of exchange remains unchanged. There will be a three months' grace period for transition from the old to the new currency. **CRE ext. 2221**

Indonesia: UK pledges £12 million aid

IT WAS announced at the meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia in May that the United Kingdom has pledged to give £12 million to Indonesia for the year 1973/74. The loan will consist of £8 million for project aid and £4 million for aid for general imports. **CRE ext. 3348/2253**

Hints to business men booklets

REVISED editions of the booklets on Switzerland and Liechtenstein and also the United States of America (including information on the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the United States Virgin Islands) have been published in the 'Hints to business men' series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets on application to Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade and Industry, Room D.24, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7146) or to any Regional Office of the Department of Trade and Industry.

TARIFF & TRADE NOTICES

Spain

TARIFF MODIFICATIONS, COMPLEMENTARY NOTES—TOURING VEHICLE PARTS: The Spanish *State Gazette* of April 26, 1973 published Decree 787/1973 established complementary notes to chapters 84, 85, 87 and 90 of the Spanish customs tariff as follows:

Tariff no.	Complementary note text
84	Loose parts and pieces for the manufacture of vehicles for touring, imported by manufacturing firms in conformity with the nationalisation and manufacturing plans approved by the Ministry of Industry and intended for first equipments, will have a customs duty rate of 5 per cent for all the tariff numbers of this Chapter except tariff nos. 84.11.C.1, 84.12 and 84.15.
85	Loose parts and pieces for the manufacture of vehicles for touring, imported by manufacturing firms in conformity with the nationalisation and manufacturing plans approved by the Ministry of Industry and intended for first equipments, will have a customs duty rate of 5 per cent for all the tariff nos. of this Chapter except tariff nos. 85.06, 85.13, 85.14 and 85.15.
87	Loose parts and pieces for the manufacture of vehicles for touring, imported by manufacturing firms in conformity with the nationalisation and manufacturing plans approved by the Ministry of Industry and intended for first equipments, will have a customs duty rate of 5 per cent for all the tariff nos. of this Chapter.
90	Loose parts and pieces for the manufacture of vehicles for touring, imported by manufacturing firms in conformity with the nationalisation and manufacturing plans approved by the Ministry of Industry and intended for first equipments, will have a customs duty rate of 5 per cent for all the tariff nos. of this Chapter.

In each case clearances by the Customs of these imports will be provisional until compliance with conditions laid down in this note is certified by the inspection services. **EDB ext. 462/471/472/473**

CUSTOMS TARIFF MODIFICATIONS—Hematite castings: The Spanish *State Gazette* of May 11, 1973, announced modifications to the Spanish customs tariff as follows:

Tariff no.		Description	Import duty
73.01.A		Hematite castings:	
	A.1	1.1 per cent of manganese or more	4% plus 1,000 pesetas/ton
	2	From 1.2 to 1.6 per cent by weight of manganese	4% plus 1,000 pesetas/ton
	3	From 0.1 to 1.2 per cent by weight (inclusive of manganese)	4% plus 1,000 pesetas/ton
	4	Less than 0.1 per cent by weight of manganese	4% plus 500 pesetas/ton

Home Compensation Tax remains unchanged.

Supplementary Note No. 1 of Chapter 73 is modified as follows:

73.01 (a) Cast hematites. The ferrous product which, while conforming to the definition at Note 1 (a) to this Chapter has a content of: phosphorous, equal to or below 0.5 per cent vanadium, below 0.5 per cent and titanium below 0.3 per cent.

(b) Cast phosphorous, the ferrous product which while conforming to the note (a) to this Chapter, has a content of phosphorous exceeding 0.5 per cent in weight.

(c) Cast canadium-titanium, the ferrous product which, while conforming to the definition at note 1 (a) of this Chapter has a phosphorous content maximum of 0.03 per cent sulphur and a minimum 0.5 per cent vanadium and 0.3 per cent titanium.

(continued on next page)

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Department of Trade and Industry
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
Tel. 01-222 7877

EDB Export Data Branch, Export Services Division
Department of Trade and Industry
Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU
Tel. 01-248 5757

SPAIN
continued

Ash and residues containing lead, abrasive powder: The Spanish *State Gazette* of May 14, 1973, announced modifications to the Spanish customs tariff as follows:

Tariff no.	Description	Import duty
26.03.A	Ash and residues containing lead:	
A.1	Containing 30 per cent or over	3%
2	Containing less than 30 per cent	Nil
68.06	Natural or artificial abrasive powder or grain on a base of woven fabric, of paper, of paper-board or of other materials, whether or not cut to shape, sewn or otherwise made up	25%

Supplementary Note No. 2 of Chapter 73 is modified as follows:
For the interpretation of any sub-headings within heading 73.02 it is considered that the content of any element expressly quoted in the text of a sub-heading must be:
more than 8 per cent for silicon
more than 30 per cent for manganese or chromium
more than 40 per cent for wolfram
more than 10 per cent for any other element (except copper)

EDB ext. 462/471/472/473

Denmark

USE OF NITRATE AND NITRATE COMPOUNDS IN MEAT, OFFALS AND MEAT GOODS: The Danish Ministry of Agriculture have issued regulations, effective from January 15, 1973, concerning the use of nitrate and nitrate compounds in meat, offals, and meat goods. An unofficial translation of the regulations is available to British exporters. **EDB ext. 408/7174/423/482**

Greece

IMPORT REGULATIONS FOR PHARMACEUTICALS: A notice appeared recently in the Greek press stating that the Greek authorities no longer require international export price certificate for pharmaceuticals imported into Greece. **EDB ext. 420/475**

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The Hungarian Deputy Minister of Communications and Postal Affairs, Mr. Dezso Kiss (right) with Lord Limerick, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade. The Hungarian Minister called on Lord Limerick during his recent 12-day visit to the United Kingdom as guest of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. The programme for his visit enabled Mr. Kiss to see UK developments in road building, public transport and pollution control.

Yugoslavia

SMALL BORDER TRAFFIC: Arrangements have been announced in the Yugoslav *Official Gazette* for small border traffic between Yugoslavia and Italy in the areas of Buje, Koper, Sezana, Nova Gorica and Trieste. Duty free imports up to a fixed ceiling have been agreed on certain products when imported to these areas.

EDB ext. 420/475

Lebanon

PORT TAX ON IMPORTED GOODS: The Lebanese authorities have announced by Decree 5191 of March 23, 1973 that the Municipal Tax (also known as Port Tax) of 3.5 per cent of the value of the goods (an addition to the customs duty) has been extended to cover goods imported by land transport as well as by sea or air transport. Goods of Arab origin are exempt from the tax.

EDB ext. 420/475

Jordan

PORT OF AQABA FREE ZONE: The Jordanian Government has recently published Regulation No. 21 of 1973 entitled 'Aqaba Free Zone Regulation of 1973' allowing the establishment of a Free Zone in Aqaba Port to develop foreign trade, transit trade and the setting up of industries with the object of attracting capital investment and creating job opportunities for local labour.

Copies of an unofficial translation of the Regulation are available from Export Services Division of the DTI. **EDB ext. 420/475**

Ghana

VEHICLE PURCHASE TAX: The following amendment to the Vehicle Purchase Tax Decree 1973 (see *Trade and Industry*, March 8, page 491), was published in the *Ghana Gazette* of March 23 and came into effect on January 30:

The Schedule to the Vehicle Purchase Tax Decree 1973 (NRCD 149) is hereby amended by the substitution for the entries in columns 3 and 4 in paragraph (2)(c) of Item 1 thereof of the following new entries:

(c) Where the value exceeds C5,900.00 but does not exceed C9,800.00	25%
(d) Where the value exceeds C9,800.00	33⅓%

EDB ext. 471/472/473

South Africa

CUSTOMS TARIFF APPLICATION: Customs Tariff Application List No. 591, published in the South African *Government Gazette* of May 18, contains applications to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

(1) Sacks and bags (62.03);
(2) Dolls, toy animals (excluding those of solid cross-section) and rattles, wholly or chiefly of rubber or plastic;
(3) Tobacco pouches, cigarette cases, cigar cases, wallets, purses, billfolds, key cases, spectacle cases and similar items, satchels, brief cases, sheaths, cases and boxes (42.02.20, 42.02.90);
(4) Electrical tape or webbing and other narrow woven fabrics (58.05.30 and 58.05.90);
(5) Twine, cordage, ropes and cables of polyamide or polyester fibres (59.04.90);
(6) Quilted bedspreads, sleeping bags and eiderdowns; quilted fabrics;
(7) Moquette (uncut or semi-cut) (58.04.10);
(8) Twine for seaming hessian bags (excluding jute twine), binder twine, other twine, cordage, ropes and cables of sisal fibres (59.04).

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to the Commercial Relations and Exports Department. **CRE ext. 2274**

Ivory Coast

IMPORTATION OF CERTAIN ARTICLES OF PAPER: It has been announced that the importation into the Ivory Coast of certain articles of paper (tariff position 48.13; 48.14; 48.15; 48.18) is now subject to prior authorisation. **EDB ext. 472**

Tanzania

STATE TRADING CORPORATION: Information has been received that a radical reorganisation of the State Trading Corporation is taking place. This will affect the importation and sale of goods previously channelled through the Corporation. Further details will be published as soon as possible. **CRE ext. 2226**

Singapore

PROHIBITION ON EXPORT OF IMPORTED CIGARETTES: The Singapore *Government Gazette* has published (Prohibition on Export of Imported Cigarettes) Notification 1973 as follows:

1. The exportation from Singapore of all brands of imported dutiable cigarettes which are also manufactured locally is hereby prohibited except where the exportation is made in the ratio of three locally manufactured cigarettes to every imported stick of cigarette.
2. This Notification shall not apply to:
   (a) cigarettes which are in trans-shipment via Singapore; and
   (b) air and sea stores. **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

PROHIBITION OF IMPORTS — WHEAT FLOUR AND STARCH; TILES: The Singapore *Government Gazette* has published the following two amendments to the Prohibition of Imports (General Licence) Notification 1972.

(i) Prohibition of Imports (General Licence) (Amendment) Notification 1973, which amends the First Schedule by deleting the following item:
21. Wheat flour and wheat starch

(ii) Prohibition of Imports (General Licence) (Amendment No. 2) Notification 1973, which amends the Second Schedule by deleting the following item:
20. Tiles, all kinds

Note: The First Schedule prohibits the import of specified goods from any country except under special licence.

The Second Schedule prohibits the import of specified goods originating or manufactured wholly or mainly in or consigned from Japan, except under special licence. **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available from the Department of Trade and Industry. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Division, DTI, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (Tel: 01-222 7877); and Export Data Branch (EDB), DTI, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (Tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (CRE, or EDB) and the appropriate telephone extension number. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Malaysia

IMPORT CONTROL: The Malaysian *Government Gazette* has published the following amendment to the Customs (Prohibition of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) Order 1969. The Customs (Prohibitions of Imports) (Temporary Protective Measure) (Amendment) Order, 1973 amends the First Schedule of the above Order by inserting in its appropriate place the heading number and all the particulars that follow hereto:

Heading no.	Description of goods	Country
83.13	Stoppers, crown corks, bottle caps, capsules, bung covers, seals and plombs, case corner protectors and other packing accessories, of base metal:	
900	Other	All countries

The First Schedule refers to goods prohibited from import into any part of the Federation of Malaysia without an import licence. **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

The general manager of the Tractor and Engineering Company of Cairo, M. Ahmed Hamammy, listens to Dr. Gosling of Hudswell Yates Developments, Leeds, explain the operation of the latest Badger trenchless pipelayer. With over a million acres of land to drain, the Egyptian Public Authority for Drainage Projects is in consultation with Hudswell Yates following Badger trials in Egypt.

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30 Royal Opera Arcade, SW1Y 4UY
(New Zealand House Building)
Telephone: 01-930 5761

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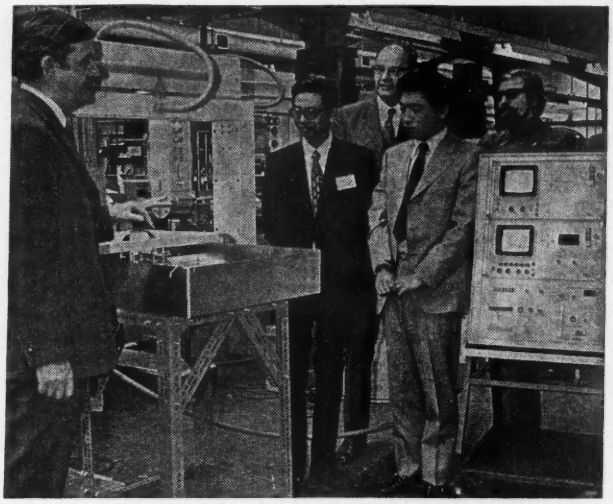


Members of the Nuclear Enterprises Agency Sales team from Malaysia, Japan, Switzerland, France and Israel were introduced to the new ultrasonic scanner, Diasonograph NE 4102, at the company's laboratories in Edinburgh recently. Mr. Brian Fraser is seen demonstrating the scanner, which has won a 1973 Design Council award. The Diasonograph is in wide use in hospitals at home and overseas.

Australia

NEW SOUTH WALES—THERAPEUTIC GOODS AND COSMETIC REGULATIONS: The New South Wales Government has published details of new regulations which commenced on March 30, 1973. These regulations cover permitted colouring substances, licensing fees and samples for analysis, etc., and include general standards for packing and labelling of therapeutic substances which will come into force on March 30, 1974. Copies of the regulations as published in the New South Wales *Government Gazette* may be obtained on loan from the Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section of Export Data Branch. **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

New Zealand

TARIFF AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD REPORTS—PLASTIC INFLATABLE BALLS AND TOYS, DEEP ETCH COATINGS: Copies of the following New Zealand Tariff and Development Board reports are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division:

Tariff no.	Description
97.03	Other toys; working models of a kind used for recreational purposes:
97.03.002	Skipping ropes; balls; hoops
97.03.009	Other
37.08.001	Deep etch coatings

TARIFF AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD—INTERIM REPORT: Copies of the following New Zealand Tariff and Development Board interim report are available from Commercial Relations and Exports Division:

Tariff no.	Description
74.07.001	Copper Tubing

Ref: CRE 1164/72 **CRE ext. 2321**

Name and address with cable

British firms cabling an overseas organisation for the first time should ensure that they include their name and full postal address. There is no comprehensive directory of cable addresses, and commercial departments in British embassies are often unable to help local firms who ask them to trace British firms from their cable address.

Fiji

CUSTOMS TARIFF CHANGES: The Fijian Government has issued the following Customs Tariff (Amendment) Order, 1973, which came into force on February 16, 1973:

> The First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Ordinance is amended by deleting the comma and the words 'and jerseys for soccer and rugby' after the word 'Tracksuits' appearing at sub-paragraph (ii) of Code 118 in Part 2 of the Tariff.

Note: Part 2 of the Tariff is a list of concessions applicable to particular goods. Ref. CRE 35237 **EDB ext. 401/468/469**

Venezuela

TARIFF AMENDMENTS: Resolution 380 of the Venezuelan Ministry of Finance of April 17, 1973 amends partly or wholly the following tariff numbers in the new Customs Tariff (Decree 1168 of December 27, 1972) which entered into effect on May 1, 1973.

05.15	08.01	08.08	08.11	12.01	16.04	17.01	20.07	21.03	29.02
29.03	29.16	39.07	40.11	40.14	48.01	48.06	48.07	48.11	48.15
48.16	48.18	48.21	68.07	70.13	70.20	73.10	73.15	82.02	83.01
83.02	84.11	84.15	84.17	84.18	84.58	84.61	85.01	85.21	87.09
89.05	92.11	97.01	97.02	97.03	97.06	97.07	98.05	98.16	

Resolution 380-A of the Venezuelan Ministry of Finance of April 30, 1973 amends partly or wholly the following tariff numbers in the new Customs Tariff (Decree 1168 of December 27, 1972) which entered into effect on May 1, 1973.

01.06	02.05	02.06	05.04	07.04	08.04	08.10	10.01	12.10	15.01
15.04	16.04	19.02	19.05	20.02	21.04	22.04	22.05	24.02	25.01
25.06	25.07	25.11	25.14	25.15	25.16	25.17	25.19	25.20	25.23
25.24	25.26	25.27	25.28	25.32	27.07	27.10	27.13	27.15	27.16
28.01	28.04	28.06	28.07	28.11	28.12	28.15	28.17	28.18	28.20
28.21	28.22	28.25	28.26	28.27	28.28	28.29	28.30	28.31	28.34
28.35	28.37	28.38	28.40	28.41	28.42	28.44	28.46	28.47	28.56
29.01	29.02	29.03	29.04	29.05	29.06	29.07	29.08	29.10	29.11
29.12	29.13	29.14	29.15	29.16	29.17	29.18	29.19	29.20	29.21
29.22	29.23	29.25	29.26	29.28	29.29	29.30	29.31	29.32	29.33
29.34	29.35	29.36	29.37	29.38	29.40	29.42	29.43	30.04	32.01
32.03	32.05	32.07	32.08	32.11	36.04	38.03	38.08	38.11	38.13
38.19	39.01	39.02	39.03	39.07	40.01	40.02	40.09	40.10	40.12
41.07	42.02	42.05	44.24	48.14	48.19	49.08	50.09	50.10	51.04
52.02	53.11	55.03	55.09	56.07	58.01	60.01	60.05	61.02	61.03
62.04	66.01	68.06	68.13	69.11	69.13	70.01	70.02	70.03	70.05
70.06	70.08	70.14	70.20	71.01	71.12	71.13	73.01	73.04	73.08
73.09	73.11	73.13	73.14	73.15	73.18	73.20	73.24	73.25	73.27
73.28	73.31	73.35	73.36	73.38	73.40	74.03	74.05	74.07	74.08
74.12	75.02	75.04	76.01	76.02	76.03	76.04	79.06	76.08	76.14
76.16	77.03	78.02	78.03	78.04	78.05	79.01	79.02	79.03	79.06
80.03	80.04	82.04	82.14	83.02	83.03	83.08	83.09	84.06	84.12
84.21	84.22	84.30	84.51	84.56	84.63	85.06	85.08	85.09	85.14
85.15	85.18	85.19	85.20	85.22	85.23	87.01	87.03	87.06	87.09
87.14	89.01	90.03	90.08	90.24	90.26	90.27	90.28	90.29	92.01
92.02	92.03	92.04	92.05	92.06	92.07	92.08	92.09	92.10	92.12
94.12	96.03	97.04	97.06	98.01	98.02	98.10			

EDB ext. 474/476/7312

Ecuador

TARIFF AMENDMENTS: Supreme Decree 347 amends partly or wholly the description and/or rate of duty of the following tariff numbers:

01.02	01.03	01.04	04.05	10.01	10.03	10.04	11.02	12.03	13.02	15.02
15.04	23.01	23.07	27.10	27.13	28.02	28.17	28.40	28.48	29.01	29.02
29.03	29.14	29.16	29.27	29.31	29.36	29.38	29.39	29.40	30.03	31.02
31.03	31.04	31.05	32.09	38.11	40.11	70.03	70.10	70.17	73.07	73.10
82.13	84.06	84.07	84.28	87.01	87.02	87.04	87.06	90.17	90.19	90.20

EDB ext. 474/476/7312

Brazil

TARIFF AMENDMENTS: Brazilian Customs Policy Council Resolutions published recently amend the following headings of the Brazilian customs tariff:

23.07	29.01	39.02	47.01	47.02	56.01	56.02	56.04	79.01	84.62	90.20

EDB ext. 474/476/7312

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions, DTI Tel. 01-222 7877 (extension at end of each notice)

EDB Export Data Branch, Export Services Division, DTI Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Jamaica

INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVES LAW—VINYL COATED FABRICS: The following products have been declared 'approved products' for the purposes of the Industrial Incentives Law 1956:

> Vinyl coated and vinyl impregnated fabrics and other plastic coated and plastic impregnated fabrics.

A notice that consideration was being given to designate these products appeared in *Trade and Industry*, February 8, 1973, page 279. Applications for the status of 'approved product' and 'approved manufacturer' are processed by the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation, 4 Winchester Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica (PO Box 505). It would be appreciated if firms writing to the Corporation would copy their initial correspondence to the British High Commission, Commercial Department, PO Box 393, Kingston, Jamaica. **CRE ext. 3572**

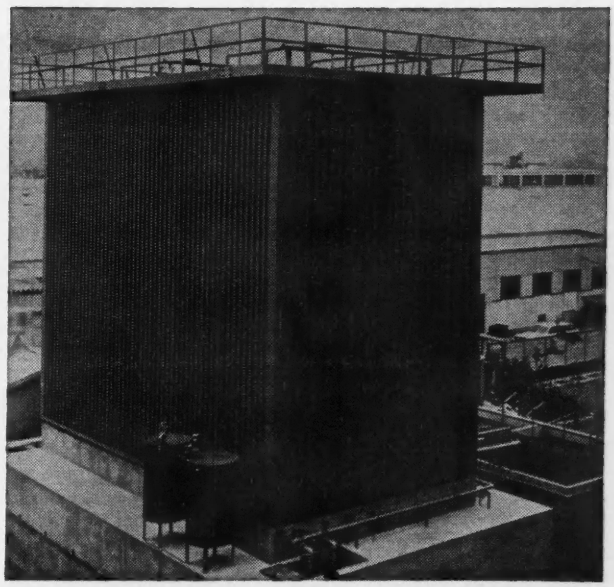
INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVES LAW — HACKSAW BLADES AND BANDSAW BLADES; MOULDED FIBREBOARD LUGGAGE; PLYWOOD: Under the above law the Jamaican Minister of Industry and Tourism is considering whether hacksaw blades and bandsaw blades should be declared an 'approved product'.

Moulded fibreboard luggage and plywood have been declared 'approved products' under the above law.

A notice that consideration was being given to designate plywood appeared in *Trade and Industry*, dated November 9, 1972, page 278.

'Approved manufacturers' of these products will enjoy income-tax relief, duty-free imports of building materials, plant, machinery etc., and other concessions.

Applications for the status of 'approved product' and 'approved manufacturer' are processed by the Jamaica Industrial Development Corporation, 4 Winchester Road, Kingston 10, Jamaica (PO Box 505). It would be appreciated if firms writing to the Corporation would copy their initial correspondence to the British High Commission, Commercial Department, PO Box 393, Kingston, Jamaica. **CRE Ext. 3572**



Effluent biofiltration tower at Dauchiya Bakery, Saitawa-Ken—one of three Japanese food manufacturers who have adopted a British system to solve effluent problems. The tower uses 'Flocor' plastics filter medium, a product of the Hyde Special Products Group of ICI Paints Division and licensed for manufacture in Japan by Seibu Construction Co. Ltd.

£4¼ million go-ahead for 'stretched' Skyvan

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, announced on May 23 that the Government had given authority for the full development and production of the Short SD3-30 aircraft—the 30 seater 'stretched' Skyvan—and had agreed to contribute £4¼ million launching aid for the project.

Mr. Walker made the announcement in Belfast after a visit to Short Bros. and Harland Ltd., and also in reply to a question in the House of Commons from a Member who asked if he would make finance available for the development of a 'stretched' version of the Skyvan.

In his Parliamentary answer, Mr. Walker said: 'I have authorised full development of this aircraft. My Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland has also agreed, subject to the negotiation of satisfactory contractual arrangements, to the Company's request for a Government contribution of £4¼ million (at October 1972 prices and adjusted with movements in the general price level) towards the project. This contribution will be recovered by a levy on sales of the aircraft.'

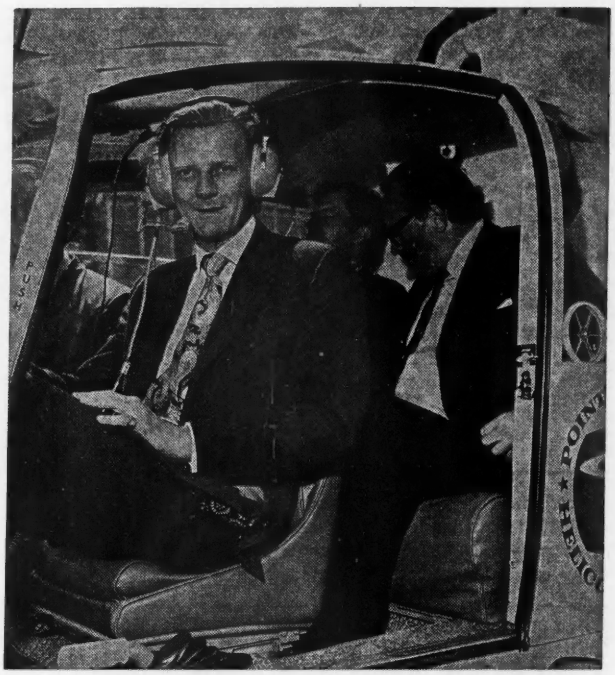
In a statement on the future of Shorts on August 9, 1972, the Minister for Aerospace and Shipping, Mr. Michael Heseltine, said that he was sanctioning preliminary work on the development of the Skyvan as a 30 seat passenger aircraft, and that a decision on full development would be taken when required. It is this decision which has now been taken.

The SD3-30 is designed as a simple, low cost aircraft for use in local services throughout the world. It is hoped to bring it into service in 1975.

Apart from the SD3-30, Shorts are continuing to sell the Skyvan itself in a highly competitive market and to make a substantial contribution to the Lockheed TriStar, Fokker Fellowship and VFW614 aircraft. Worldwide sales of the company's highly successful Seacat and Tigercat missile systems continue, and a substantial order was recently placed by the army for the company's new shoulder-fired ground to air missile, Blowpipe.

Shorts, who are 70 per cent owned by the Government, employ about 5,300 people in and around Belfast. The SD3-30 is expected to provide about 1,000 jobs which will help to maintain employment in the company.

Shorts have won the Queen's Award for export achievement in each of the past seven years. The most recent award, to the company's Aircraft Components Division, was announced last month.



Mr. Michael Heseltine, Minister for Aerospace, inspecting one of the aircraft on view after he had officially opened the Plane Show, on the South Bank, on May 18. The show, which remained open until May 28, created an aircraft park in the heart of London with the emphasis on general aviation and flying for business and pleasure.

'Evidence of Britain's new prosperity now discernible'

—Lord Limerick

'BRITISH industry is more efficient than it has been for a very long time,' Lord Limerick, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, said on May 21. 'The substantial increase in our export orders and, perhaps, even more important, the substantial increase in our prospects for orders should give us all confidence that we have, at last, the opportunity to break through to and to sustain the high levels of growth that many of our major industrial competitors have enjoyed since the war,' he said.

Lord Limerick, who was addressing the Oil and Colour Chemists Association in London on the occasion of its Silver Jubilee, continued:

'I suppose that there is a tendency for scientific and technical associations like yours to cross frontiers rather more easily than may be the case with bodies more directly concerned with trade. This is something we can all applaud.

'On the other hand, from the national viewpoint—and that of the international family of nations—there is a strong interest in keeping trade on its steep upward path. This being so, the international links which associations like yours establish can have wider effects which are very important economically. In the context of our membership of an outward-looking European Community these links are, I am sure, all the more significant.

'For its part the Government is dedicated to further international trade expansion. We shall do our very best to make the major multilateral trade negotiations due to start this autumn in the GATT a resounding success from the viewpoint of rich and poor countries alike.'

Later in his address Lord Limerick said 'I am glad that on the trade side too there is an increasing emphasis on international development. I know that British paintmakers have been playing a leading part in technical discussions with our European partners in the matter of various schemes for harmonisation now under discussion within the European Community.'

Referring to the British economy as a whole Lord Limerick said 'I am pleased to be able to say that in this vital question of selling abroad Britain is doing well at the present time—in fact our economy as a whole, is doing remarkably well.

'We have today an expanding economy, expanding much faster than we have seen for a decade at least.

'British industry is more efficient than it has been for a very long time. The substantial increase in our export orders and, perhaps, even more important, the substantial increase in our prospects for orders, should give us all confidence that we have, at last, the opportunity to break through to and to sustain the high levels of growth that many of our major industrial competitors have enjoyed since the war.

'I believe that the facts of Britain's new economic situation are beginning to be understood by the country. The evidence of our growing prosperity is there for all to see.'

'The Government's nine-point consumer protection programme'

—Mr. Peter Emery

MR. Peter Emery, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs on May 23 listed the nine points in the Government's programme for helping British consumers.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the National Union of Townswomen's Guilds, Mr. Emery said that this programme had already had a 'tremendous effect' on consumers.

First, said Mr. Emery, the Fair Trading Bill had been introduced. He went on: 'This is the most comprehensive measure of consumer protection ever introduced by any Government. The Bill will be law by the end of the summer and the new Director General of Fair Trading and his office will be set up so that the new arrangements will be operating in the autumn. He will watch out for all consumer trade practices which may react unfairly on the shopper—on you the housewife—and he will be able to bring to book firms which engage in sharp practice. He will have links with local enforcement authorities and he will publish information to help consumers.

'The consumer with a grievance about a purchase that does not live up to the claims made for its performance, be it a motor car, washing machine or whatever, will no longer find his right of redress taken away from him by the small print in, say, the car order form or the 'so called' radio set guarantee. This is because the Supply of Goods (Implied Terms) Act 1973, which came into force last Friday, renders invalid so called exclusion clauses in guarantees and warranties. I hope, after the Law Commission has reported, to give similar protection for services.

'The Government has been active in using its powers over monopolies. We acted swiftly on the Monopolies Commission Report on breakfast cereals—and on tranquillisers. Last week we announced the Government's intention that that Commission should have a look at various practices—many time-honoured—of some professions. It may well be that there is nothing wrong with them. But it is absolutely right that they should be thoroughly scrutinised in the interests of the public and particularly of the users of the services.

'A major Insurance Bill which is designed to give maximum protection to the policy-holder is well on the way to the statute book.

'The evil of pyramid selling is being tackled. A Court Order has been made winding up one company and the DTI is investigating others. Changes in the law are planned so as to outlaw this practice.

Consumer credit

'A comprehensive new measure on consumer credit will be introduced as soon as possible. This will add important new provisions to the law relating to consumer credit. It will require the disclosure of the actual cost of borrowing in all agreements and advertisements —that is 'truth in lending'. Interest rates for buying the same product vary widely between different shops in the same high street and few people are aware of this. The same applies to personal loans, second mortgages and credit card interest charges, and these too will be subject to the requirement to disclose the rate of interest charged. The protection that already exists in the present Hire Purchase Acts will be extended to cover all forms of consumer credit, and this will outlaw the type of transaction that takes place, notably on the doorstep, and which skates round the present law and does not, for example, give people who sign loan agreements on the doorstep the benefit of the 72 hour pause to think things over that applies to Hire Purchase sales.

'Amending the law is one thing. Consumers with problems really need redress. Ordinary people are often frightened of courts and they naturally need guidance. We are hoping to introduce a simple arbitration procedure so that small claims can be easily dealt with in the County Court, so that consumer grievances can be redressed. We will be producing plenty of information on this and making sure that legal aid—and particularly the scheme where £25 worth of legal advice is available with little formality—keeps up with developments.

'To make it easier for people to get advice on their complaints and problems, we shall be taking steps in conjunction with local authorities, to extend the local authority and voluntary consumer advice centres and Citizens' Advice Bureaux. The Department makes a grant to the National Council of Social Service for the National Citizens' Advice Bureaux Committee and we hope to be able to announce a substantial increase before long. This will help to strengthen and develop the advisory and training work of the central organisation of the Citizens' Advice Bureaux Network.

'In Europe the Government have been influential in leading Commission to accept a new portfolio for Consumer Affairs and to set up a new Directorate for the subject. By this means the importance of consumer interest in all European affairs—agriculture, competition, social and environmental—is steadily making itself felt and providing in Brussels a clear point of contact for the representation of the consumer point of view. Not least for British independent consumer organisations who have a fine reputation in Europe for their tenacity and determination in seeing that the consumer voice is heard. And though only an eighth of the members are British, three out of the eight women on the Economic and Social Committee are British.'

'Paper industry is a guide to economic growth of country'

—Mr. Anthony Grant

'THE Paper and Board industry is a well tried barometer of the general economic well being of the country,' Mr. Anthony Grant, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development said in London on May 22.

Opening the British Paper and Board Makers' Association and Plastic Institute conference at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, he added 'Consequently the industry's recent production and export figures, are most encouraging.

(continued on next page)

While making his 50th regional visit since taking on responsibility for the promotion of industrial development, Mr. Anthony Grant, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development, earlier this month opened a new factory at Tir-y-Berth for the fur fabric manufacturing company of Dunbar Rudinger Ltd. Here he can be seen with the firm's managing director, Mr. L. A. Dunbar, watching fabric going through a shearing machine. While in Wales Mr. Grant also visited the crystal glassware factory of Stuart and Sons Ltd. at Aberbargoed and the Croespenmean works, near Crumlin, of Patol Ltd., manufacturers of marine and industrial instruments.

'In the international context we need of course to safeguard our industries. This was exemplified in the Brussels negotiations in 1972 with the EFTA non-candidate countries when the settlement was reached, the outcome was as favourable as could possibly be achieved.'

Turning to the question of industrial pollution, Mr. Grant said 'One area of common concern to the Paper and Plastics industries is, of course, the environment.

'Paper mills are important in the field of water pollution and it is therefore gratifying to know that OECD have tackled this difficult subject in depth. The EEC is also tackling this problem. Plastics present not only the problem of degradability but the fact that they are at present generally, uneconomic to collect and recycle.'

Mr. Grant added: 'I am happy to say the industry is considering these problems and that the Department of Trade and Industry has been associated with these considerations.'

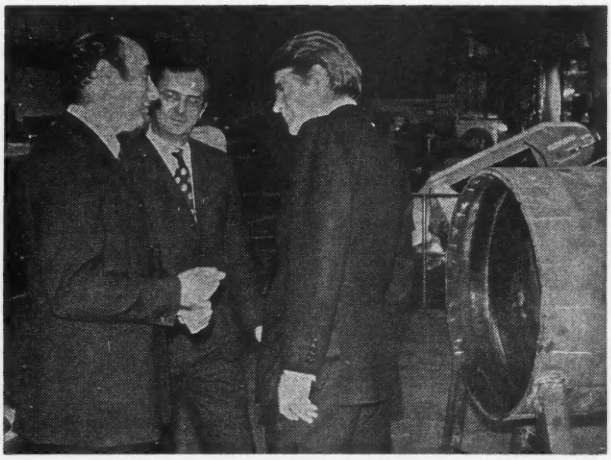
Regional incentives unchanged says Industrial Minister

'SCOTLAND, Wales and the English regions have today their best post-war opportunity for attracting the investment that will secure their future. By his public expenditure cuts, the Chancellor has cleared the way for a high and continuing level of growth through 1974,' said Mr. Christopher Chataway, Minister for Industrial Development in Dundee on May 23.

Speaking at the opening of a new factory for Whittaker Fabrics (Dundee) Ltd., Mr. Chataway said 'The long end-of-Empire period, in which we slipped steadily—and in the late 1960s more quickly—behind our industrial rivals, has ended. More and more people are gradually realising that the 1970s can be for Britain a period of industrial advance, of regained confidence and of closing the gap, which had begun to yawn so dangerously between us and some of our more successful European neighbours.

'That is a factor of enormous importance to Scotland—as it is to the English regions and to Wales—for it is only in the context of an expanding UK economy that you and they can make real progress. It is highly significant for all who care about their problems, that despite this week's reductions in public expenditure the Government has decided to maintain the substantial incentives to investment in the regions. It is plainly in the interest of the regions to do so. But it is in the interest too of the nation as a whole, for it is only by utilising to the full the resources of every part of Britain that we can maintain the growth we have achieved.

'Today every indicator including the many returns that we receive in the DTI, points to a sharp up-turn in investment in all those areas, which have suffered most from the big structural changes of the post-war period. We are determined—and the Chancellor's statement this week underlines the fact—to ensure that Scotland, Wales and the English regions are enabled effectively to use our faster national growth to solve their problems.'



Mr. Christopher Chataway, Minister for Industrial Development, earlier this month visited the Newcastle upon Tyne establishment of International Research and Development Co. Ltd. He is shown here at the company's laboratories having the explosive welding technique explained to him by Dr. H. Rose (left), managing director of IRD. In the centre is Mr. B. Forster, the company's research manager. IRD is carrying out work on the use of the explosive welding technique for 32-in. diameter pipe, the size being used for the Forties oilfield. An example of an explosively welded joint between a 30-in. diameter pipe and a 32-in. diameter sleeve can be seen on the right of the photograph.

Insurance Bill's two main objectives

—Lord Limerick

LORD Limerick, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade said on May 23 that the Insurance Companies Bill, currently before Parliament had two main objectives—to protect the policy-holder, and facilitate the continued development of the British insurance industry.

Speaking at a conference on insurance in London, Lord Limerick said: 'These objectives are complementary. We want to protect the policy-holder both because it is intrinsically right to do so, on account of the inevitable inequality of bargaining power and the necessity to safeguard his rights in future claims made months or years after the payment of the premium, and also because it is only if there is confidence that the policy-holder is reasonably protected that the insurance industry can maintain the freedom it expects and needs if it is to give of its best.

'The Insurance Companies Bill is one of the measures in the Government's programme in the general field of consumer protection. It is also the latest step in the long development of our system of insurance supervision, one of the older forms of consumer protection, which began 103 years ago with the Life Assurance Companies Act 1870.

Different philosophies

'There are different philosophies according to which insurance can be supervised, and many countries have systems different from ours in that their insurers are subject to detailed operational controls, notably on premium rates and policy conditions. I believe that our aim is rightly to continue to strike a balance, on the one hand between allowing so much freedom that the business is exploited by rogues, or policy-holders are put in jeopardy by incompetents, or on the other hand putting insurers into such shackles that they cannot give an efficient, forward looking competitive service both at home and abroad.

'Fundamentally we set out to tell insurers what they may not do, whereas in many other countries the insurer has to obtain specific approval for what he does. There is a wealth of difference and it is no accident that our insurance industry is so vigorous.

'But this system demands both vigilance and flexibility. We cannot achieve our aim unless it works effectively in detecting, and preventing, situations of a kind which bring discredit both on the industry and on the Department as its supervisory authority. I believe that the present Bill will provide a satisfactory basis for supervision. When intervention is necessary, it will enable us to intervene quickly and effectively, but in a more flexible way than at present. The size both of the British insurance industry itself and of its contribution to the national well-being is probably not fully realised by outsiders. There is of course a large international market in insurance but there are few countries with favourable balances on insurance business and no other country with one so large as ours, either absolutely or proportionately. Two-thirds or more of all non-life premiums are earned from overseas business and in 1971 the net earnings of Lloyd's, the insurance companies and brokers were £380 million. This figure had doubled in three years to a point where insurance now provides half of all the City's net earnings from invisibles. These are remarkable figures and show that policy-holders, not only in Britain but throughout the world have confidence in the British insurance market.'

Price Commission decisions on price increase applications

THE Price Commission have approved applications for increases in the prices of the following products:

Steel products—a wide range of steel products, as a consequence of the increases in European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) steel prices which took effect on April 30, from a number of producers of steel products who are required to pre-notify. These increases are a result of and reflect only the ECSC increase in the cost of the steel content of the finished product, adjusted to take full account of reductions in total costs which have taken place since September 30, 1972 as a result of increased output and improved efficiency.

It is not possible to quote a meaningful average figure for increases because a very wide and diverse range of products is involved and the proportion of total costs represented by the ECSC input also varies widely. But the Commission have been insistent that there can be no automatic pass-through of even significant material inputs without the conditions of the Code being met.

The producers are British Steel Corporation, Glynwed Steels Ltd., Johnson and Nephew (Steel) Ltd., Tube Products Ltd., Fulton (TI) Ltd., Tubes Ltd., Desford Tubes Ltd., Rollo Hardy and Co. Ltd., TI Stainless Tubes Ltd., Flather Halesowen Ltd., Haybridge Steel Co. Ltd., Firth-Vickers Stainless Steels Ltd., and the GKN Group.

Food products—the following manufactured foods. The increases shown are increases in the average net prices to trade customers such as wholesalers and retailers, and the dates shown are those from which manufacturers may charge the higher prices to trade customers:

Margarine and cooking fats and oils manufactured by Van den Berghs and Jurgens: price increases ranging from 0.77 pence a lb. to 1.60 pence a lb. or bottle on Blue Band, Stork, Echo, Outline, Spry, Cookeen, White Cap and Spry Crisp 'n Dry. Other brands are unchanged. The increases amount to an average of 6 per cent across all brands and are lower than those applied for. They are justified by the increased costs of raw materials. They are effective from Monday, May 21.

Preserves manufactured by James Robertson & Sons: increases in jams of 0.75 pence a lb.; marmalades 1.1 pence a lb.; mincemeat 3 pence a lb.; lemon curd 0.75 pence a lb. These increases are justified by the increased costs of raw materials. The company have agreed to defer the effective date until Friday, July 1.

Cereal breakfast foods manufactured by Nabisco Foods; increases in Shredded Wheat, spoon-sized Shredded Wheat, Shreddies and Golden Nuggets of 0.375 pence per carton. These increases are due mainly to increased costs of raw materials and labour and will become effective gradually from the end of May.

Margarines and compounds manufactured by the Craigmillar division of Van den Berghs and Jurgens, which supplies the bakery and catering trades. These increases amount to an average of 3½ per cent across the range of products and are lower than those applied for. They are justified by the increased costs of raw materials. They are effective from Monday, May 21.

Preserves manufactured by Cadbury Schweppes Foods Ltd.: increases on their 'New Jam' range (excluding Black Cherry) and on new Lemon Cheese, of 0.75 pence per 12-oz. jar. The increase is justified by higher costs of raw materials. It will not be effective before Monday, June 18.

Preserves manufactured by the same company for sale to caterers and the baking industry: increases averaging about 9 per cent across the whole range. For these products also the increase is justified by higher costs of raw materials. It is effective from Monday, June 4.

'Vesta' packet meals manufactured by Batchelors Foods: increases of 0.74 pence on the 'Serve 1' packet and 1.48 pence on the 'Serve 2' packet. Savoury rice and the mixed vegetables variety of cooking aids manufactured by the same company: an increase of 0.74 pence per packet or pot. Ready dishes and meat products manufactured by the same company for supply to the catering industry: increases ranging from 1.7 per cent to 8.6 per cent. These increases are lower than those applied for. They are justified by higher costs of raw materials, and are effective from Tuesday, May 29 except those on catering products, which are effective from Friday, June 1.

As the Price and Pay Code does not directly control the retail prices for individual products, the eventual shop price may vary from place to place. But under the Code every retailer is subject to strict limits on the gross percentage and net profit margins on his sales as a whole.

Newsprint—newsprint manufactured by the Bowater Corporation Ltd. and Reed Paper and Board (UK) Ltd.

Approval has been given to the Bowater Corporation's application for an increase of £6 per tonne for standard newsprint and £7 per tonne for lightweight newsprint. These increases have been approved under the loss-making provisions of the Code (paragraph 49).

Approval has been given to Reed Paper and Board (UK)'s application for an increase of £4.95 per tonne for standard newsprint and £5.80 per tonne for lightweight newsprint. These increases reflect the increased cost of imported raw materials and increased labour costs.

Dupont—the average price of Orlon by 2 pence per kilo on May 14 and a further 2 pence per kilo from July 1 has been approved under the investment provisions of the Price and Pay Code (paragraph 63). The increase will ensure the expansion of production facilities in Londonderry with consequent benefit to the employment situation there.

ICI Fibres Ltd.—an increase limited to an average of 6 per cent on the price of the company's range of nylon and polyester fibres and yarns has been approved under the investment provisions of the Price and Pay Code (paragraph 63). This will provide funds within this company, as the Code provides, for an early expansion of capacity in the UK for these products. Even with this increase, the price of the products concerned will be below those ruling several years ago. The effect on retail prices should be small since the price of the fibre content of a garment usually accounts for less than 10 per cent of the retail price of the finished article.

IPC Magazines Ltd.—advertising rates in respect of 17 publications. The increases average about 13 per cent and are based mainly on allowable cost increases for raw materials and labour.

Grand Metropolitan Hotels—the prices charged by Grand Metropolitan Hotels for accommodation in their London hotels. The increases, which average nearly 7 per cent, are justified by higher labour and other operating costs, after allowing for the savings arising from the abolition of SET and Purchase Tax. They come into effect immediately.

Ransome Hoffman Pollard Ltd.—under the investment provisions (Para 63) of the Price and Pay Code an increase, limited to 6.7 per cent, in the price of ball and roller bearings manufactured by Ransome Hoffman and Pollard Ltd. This increase will enable the company to resume its programme of modernisation of plant and equipment.

Clearance of merger proposals by the DTI

SIR Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, has decided not to refer the proposed acquisition by Slater Walker Securities Ltd. of the Hill Samuel Group Ltd. to the Monopolies Commission for investigation under the provisions of the Monopolies and Mergers Act 1965.

In reaching this decision the Minister took account of the fact that the merger would not result in any monopoly or near-monopoly situation in any of the industries and interests in which the combined group would be involved and of the likelihood that the move will lead to an expansion of UK merchant banking activity overseas.

The Department of Trade and Industry announce that on the information at present before them it is not their intention to refer to the Monopolies Commission, under the provisions of the Monopolies and Mergers Act 1965, the proposed merger between the following companies:

Pye Telecommunications Ltd. and the mobile radio activities of ITT Mobile Communications Ltd.

CIRET conference

THE next CIRET conference will take place at the Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace, London S.W.1 from September 12 to 14. The most recent research findings in connection with trade cycle indicators and business investment and consumer surveys will be presented. About 200 persons are expected to attend.

CIRET (Centre for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys) is an international study group for the mutual exchange of experience in the field of business and consumer surveys. At present CIRET has nearly 300 members in 33 countries. The CIRET members and others interested in this field of research meet every two years to exchange views and experience.

The organisation of the meeting is being handled by the Department of Trade and Industry and the Confederation of British Industry. Anyone interested in this year's CIRET Conference should apply for further particulars to: Mr. R. H. Price, Confederation of British Industry, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9LP.

UK restricts Brazilian air cargo service

FOLLOWING the Brazilian Government's restrictive quota on the number of passengers which British Caledonian Airways may carry between Brazil and Casablanca, the United Kingdom authorities have reluctantly decided to restrict the Brazilian airline Varig. The restriction, which came into effect on May 28, limits the amount of cargo which Varig can pick up and set down in London on its all-cargo service.

The Brazilian Government imposed its quota on BCAL early in 1973 without warning or prior consultation. The United Kingdom has protested against the unilateral imposition of this quota as an unjustified restriction on the bilaterally agreed air traffic rights of the British airline on the route between Britain and Brazil and has pressed for it to be withdrawn, while proposing consultations to resolve any problems seen by the Brazilian authorities. The Brazilian authorities while agreeing to consultation have not agreed to remove their quota.

Lonrho Ltd: Inspectors named

SIR Geoffrey Howe, Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs, announced in answer to a Parliamentary Question on May 23 that the Department of Trade and Industry has appointed Mr. Allan Heyman, QC, and Mr. Dennis Garrett, chartered accountant, under the powers conferred by Section 165(b) of the Companies Act 1948, to act as Inspectors to investigate the affairs of Lonrho Limited.

Section 165(*b*) of the Companies Act 1948 empowers the Secretary of State to appoint Inspectors to investigate the affairs of a company when there are circumstances suggesting fraud, misfeasance or other misconduct, or when members have not been given all the information which they might reasonably expect.

Survey of load line ships: instructions for the guidance of surveyors

THE Department of Trade and Industry's revised Instructions to Surveyors on the Survey of load line ships has now been published and is available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office or through any bookseller, price £2.75. This publication, which supersedes Circular 1687 (Revised 1956) entitled 'Survey of Load Line Ships for Load Line Certificates and the Loading of Ships: Instructions to Surveyors', is in loose-leaf form to facilitate later amendment and arrangements can be made to obtain amendment sheets as they are issued.

This is now the fourth volume that the Department has published in its revised series of Instructions to Surveyors, the three previous ones relating to Tonnage Measurements of Ships.

Awards for saving life at sea

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has made the following awards:

to Mr. James Andrew Stanton, coxswain of the Boulmer Volunteer Rescue Service's inshore rescue boat, a piece of plate;

to Mr. Albert Stephenson, crew member of the Boulmer Volunteer Rescue Service's inshore rescue boat, a piece of plate;

to Mr. William Ralph Wood, crew member of the Boulmer Volunteer Rescue Service's inshore rescue boat, a piece of plate.

The awards are in recognition of the services rendered at the scene of the stranding of the fishing vessel *Nordbeam* off Seaton Point, Northumberland, on October 27, 1972.

Consent to new gas turbine station at Chadderton

MR. Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has authorised consent to be given to the Central Electricity Generating Board to extend the generating station at Chadderton, Lancashire, by the addition of a new 150 MW gas turbine station on the same site.

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Industrial and commercial property

PARLIAMENT

Supplementary questions and answers on the points in these pages are published in *Hansard*

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Lonrho

Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked whether he will establish an inquiry under section 165 of the Companies Act into the affairs of Lonrho Limited, including every aspect of disposal of funds by the present directors, including the acquisition of properties, which were subsequently tenanted by such directors for a peppercorn. He replied: 'I am considering the allegations made in the course of the hearings but I have not reached a conclusion at present.'

Price rise applications

A Member who asked for a list of all the applications for price rises so far presented to the Prices Commission, together with the percentage increase in prices requested, and indicate which ones have been granted, refused, and not yet determined, was answered by Sir Geoffrey Howe. 'The information requested by my honourable Friend is a matter for the Price Commission whose initial two month and subsequent quarterly reports will be laid before Parliament. I understand, however, that the Price Commission will be publishing information about all price increases for pre-notifying firms which they accept as being within the limits set by the Code,' said Sir Geoffrey.

Oil benefits and Ulster

Would the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry make it his policy to ensure that the people of Northern Ireland receive the full benefit of any oil or gas discoveries in the seas surrounding the coast of Northern Ireland? a Member asked. Mr. Boardman replied that Northern Ireland, as well as sharing in the general benefits of Continental Shelf oil and gas to the United Kingdom, also receives a share of total licence receipts in proportion to its population.

N. Sea supply boats

How many supply boats are now operating in connection with North Sea oil at the latest count: how many of these were built in Scottish shipyards; how many additional supply boats are under construction for work in the North Sea; and how many of these are being built in Scottish yards? asked a Member. Mr. Grant said that it was estimated in the IMEG report that in 1972 there was around 80 supply vessels operating in all sectors of the North Sea in connection with oil and gas exploration. It is not known how many of these vessels were constructed in Scottish yards. There are 50 supply boats on order for service in the North Sea and an estimated requirement for a further 100 or more by 1975. As yet only one firm order has been placed in a Scottish yard but it is hoped that the substantial incentives provided by the Government's Ship Construction Grant and Home Credit schemes will enable Scottish yards to secure further orders in the near future.

Oil estimates

Did the most recent estimate of the United Kingdom's offshore oil reserves include any appraisal of the potential in the non-designated parts of the UK Continental Shelf? Mr. Boardman was asked. He said that no allowance has been made for possible reserves in areas of the UK Continental Shelf which have not yet been designated because not enough is yet known about these areas to enable a meaningful estimate to be made.

Ministers at the Department of Trade and Industry

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry: Mr. Peter Walker

Minister for Trade and Consumer Affairs: Sir Geoffrey Howe
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade: Lord Limerick

Minister for Industrial Development: Mr. Christopher Chataway
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development: Mr. Anthony Grant

Minister for Aerospace and Shipping: Mr. Michael Heseltine
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Aerospace and Shipping: Mr. Cranley Onslow

Minister for Industry: Mr. Tom Boardman
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs: Mr. Peter Emery

Minister without Portfolio: Lord Drumalbyn

Top exporters

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry was asked to identify the 79 companies which, according to his recent departmental inquiry, account for 50 per cent of British exports; to list the 230 UK companies which account for 66 per cent of British exports; and to identify the subsidiaries of foreign-controlled companies which, according to his recent departmental inquiry, contribute substantially to British exports. Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'I am precluded from giving lists of names derived from the recent departmental inquiry because of its confidential nature, but the largest exporting companies can readily be identified from the information given in the "Times 1,000", which also identifies companies controlled overseas.'

Energy prices and the regions

General directions would not be given to nationalised industries to reflect the needs of regions in their energy pricing policies, by means of differential prices, Mr. Boardman told a questioner. 'Incentives for investment in the regions are given in other, more general, forms.'

UK/COMECON trade

A question on the growth in exports and imports between the United Kingdom and the COMECON bloc taken as a whole, and individual countries of the COMECON bloc, in each year in the period 1960 to 1972, was answered by Sir Geoffrey Howe. He said that yearly changes can be obtained from the figures of United Kingdom imports and exports which are available as follows:

For 1960 and 1961 the figures are:

£ million

	Imports cif		Exports fob	
	1960	1961	1960	1961
Soviet Union	77.5	91.1	53.3	69.8
Poland	35.9	37.0	14.9	23.5
Eastern Germany	6.3	6.7	8.4	9.8
Hungary	4.3	4.3	4.6	5.9
Czechoslovakia	11.2	13.6	8.9	11.2
Romania	3.9	6.1	4.3	14.8
Other countries*	2.3	3.3	2.6	1.8
Total	141.4	162.1	97.0	136.8

* Bulgaria and Albania: trade with the latter is negligible. Mongolia is also a member of COMECON, but imports amounted to only £128,000 and exports to £29,000 in 1972.

For 1962, corresponding information is given under 'Soviet Union and Eastern Europe' in Tables 274 and 275 in the 1971 Annual Abstract of Statistics, for 1963 to 1970 in Tables 285 and 286 of the 1972 Annual Abstract, for 1971 in Table I of Vol. IV of the 1971 Annual Statement of Trade and for 1972 in Tables II and V of the December 1972 issue of the Overseas Trade Statistics.

NW advance factories

Mr. Grant answered a question on why four advance factories have been allocated to the North-West Region out of a total of more than 50; and what action he proposes to increase this number. He said that the role of Government advance factories in meeting the need for more jobs in development areas varies from one area to another. 'In the light of the many factors taken into account in formulating the recent programme I believe the allocation to the North West Region to be reasonable. The employment needs of the Region and the contribution of further advance factories will continue to be kept under review.'

PARLIAMENT
continued

Concorde spending and production

By April 30, the British Government had advanced approximately £423 million on the development of Concorde and £62 million on production, Mr. Heseltine said. Comparable sums have been invested in the aircraft by the French Government.

Two prototype and two preproduction Concordes have been manufactured and are now engaged on the flight test programme. Sixteen production aircraft are now in course of production. None of these are yet complete. Long-dated materials have been ordered for a further six aircraft (Nos 17-22).

Airport search

The Secretary of State for Trade and Industry was asked if he will introduce legislation to define the power of search at airports in the United Kingdom and, in particular, the rights of security personnel at airports in this regard. Mr. Onslow said that security personnel at airports have no special powers. Passengers and baggage are searched at the request of airlines, which may by contract refuse to carry a passenger or his baggage without a search. Other searches at airports may be carried out by airport authorities as a condition of entry to their property. The protection of Aircraft Bill creates in certain circumstances a statutory power of search. No other legislation is contemplated.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

GATT negotiations

In reply to a question on discussions in OECD about the forthcoming GATT negotiations, Sir Geoffrey Howe said that the OECD had been giving consideration (in the Executive Committee in Special Session and otherwise) to the contribution it could make within its field of competence to further progress in the liberalisation of trade.

Coal reserves

A Member asked what percentage of total coal production was drawn from shafts under the sea; and what percentage of total coal reserves were located under the Continental Shelf.

'The National Coal Board advise me that about 10 per cent of deep mined coal is from collieries which have undersea workings, and that about 13 per cent of classified reserves are under the Continental Shelf,' replied Mr. Emery.

Investigations under the Companies Acts

A Member asked if the Secretary of State would cause an investigation to be made into public companies 'to ascertain to what extent company directors have been evading the Government's wage control policy by increasing the salaries of their directors and paying them in kind with houses and other perquisites and making tax free payments in other countries; and whether he will publish this report.' Sir Geoffrey Howe replied: 'The powers of investigation under the Companies Acts are not appropriate to the matters in the Hon. Member's question. The questions of payments in kind and other perquisites to directors and tax free payments in other countries are matters for the Inland Revenue, who, I understand, keep them constantly under review.'

Imports of pickled birds

Referring to availability of pickled birds in British restaurants, a Member asked what further steps were being taken to detect and prevent their importation. Sir Geoffrey Howe replied that the DTI hoped shortly to complete the investigations into imports of pickled birds from Cyprus to which he referred on March 19. 'As I said then, there were no imports of such birds from Cyprus in 1972; nor were there any imports of them from Cyprus in the early months of 1973,' said Sir Geoffrey. 'I have no information about imports of pickled birds from other Mediterranean countries.'

Banks Committee report on patents

Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked if legislation would be introduced to implement the Report of the Banks Committee on Patents and to give effect to the European Patent Treaties. He answered: 'It is clearly desirable that new British patent law should, in addition to implementing the main recommendations of the Banks Committee, be as consistent as possible with the new Community patent law. The latter, as defined in the two European Patent Treaties, will not be finally settled until May 1974. I do not, therefore, now propose to introduce new patent legislation in the next session of Parliament, but to do so as soon as practicable thereafter.'

Industrial development certificates

In reply to a question on the number of industrial development certificates granted in England in 1972, and how this figure compared with the figure for 1970, Mr. Grant said: '2,420 IDCs were approved in England in 1972 but a meaningful comparison cannot be made with 1970 as IDCs have not been required in the Development and Special Development Areas since July 1972 and the exemption limit has been raised twice since the beginning of 1970.'

MONDAY, MAY 21

British shipping earnings

Information was requested as to the working of non-tariff barriers to trade such as fiscal incentives given to US shippers using domestic internal sales corporations and as to the extent to which this was resulting in loss of foreign exchange to British shipping. Mr. Onslow replied: 'The fiscal incentives of the American domestic international sales corporations system could reduce British shipping earnings by encouraging preferential use of American ships.

'It is difficult to quantify their effect, nor is it easy to assess the effect on British shipping on other discriminatory practices applying elsewhere in the world. We keep in close touch with the industry about this situation.'

Small firms

Mr. Grant was asked if the DTI had given any advice to small firms as to the powers which local authorities and central government departments had in relation to small firms. 'In response to requests, my Small Firms Division does help small firms to obtain information about legislation or powers which may apply to them,' he replied. 'The main function of the Small Firms Information Centres, which are being set up, will be to direct inquiries to sources of advice on this and other matters. The Division does not, however, intervene in matters which are the statutory or sponsorship responsibility of other Divisions or Departments or interfere with existing lines of communication between firms and individual Departments.'

Pyramid selling

Sir Geoffrey Howe told a Member who asked whether he had yet reached a decision on action with reference to outlawing the practice of pyramid selling, that he was still exploring the possibility of including the necessary measures in the Fair Trading Bill.

Imports of smokeless fuel

In reply to a question on the quantity of solid smokeless fuel imported into the UK, from EEC countries, since January 1, 1973, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'Smokeless fuels are not separately distinguished in the trade statistics but imports of anthracite, briquettes of coal and, of hard coke totalled 108.3 thousand metric tonnes.'

European coal policy

Mr. Boardman was asked to what extent the latest estimates of demand for British-produced coal over the next 10 years took account of the European Coal and Steel Community's need for a steady supply in furtherance of a common energy policy. He answered that demand for NCB coal over the next decade would depend primarily on the competitive performance of the industry. The UK Government would ensure that proper weight was given to coal in the current discussions on energy within the Community.

Mr. Boardman said, in reply to another question, that the Council of Ministers would be discussing energy policy on May 22. The Government would seek to ensure that proper emphasis was given to the role of coal.

Another question concerned the report 'Coal and Energy Policy in Europe', produced jointly by the National Coal Board and trade unions; and if steps would be taken to implement the recommendation that national fuel policy should be based chiefly on the use of indigenous fuels. 'This is a very useful report, which I and my Department have studied with interest,' replied Mr. Boardman. 'It is certainly our intention to make the optimum use of all our indigenous energy resources, as the Coal Industry Act helps us to do in the case of coal.'

Coal output

Mr. Boardman was asked what revised estimate he had now made of the output from the coal mining industry during 1973; whether output per man shift continued to rise; what figures there were relating to trends in productivity; and what was his estimate of capital expenditure to be incurred by the coalmining industry for the year to March 31, 1974. He answered: 'I accept the National Coal Board's estimate of output of coal in 1973 of between 135 and 140 million tons which I gave to my hon. Friend on May 7. Output per manshift continues to rise subject to seasonal fluctuations; this is the industry's usual measure of productivity; the most recent figures available are for the five weeks ended May 5 which show output per manshift at 47.1 cwts. The NCB expect to spend approximately £75 million on capital account in 1973/74 on their coal-mining activities.'

North Sea oil

A question was put on the proportion of capital expenditure to date, in connection with hydrocarbon exploration and production in the Scottish sector of the North Sea Continental Shelf, that had been placed with companies registered in Scotland. Mr. Emery answered: 'It would not be possible to identify these figures without disproportionate effort and cost. However, the Government has made it clear that it expects the operating companies to give UK firms a full and fair opportunity to compete for business in offshore UK waters, and naturally this applies particularly to industry in Scotland and other assisted areas. The hon. Member will be aware of the very important orders that have been won by both new and well established industries in Scotland, which are reported in the special issue of the *Scottish Economic Bulletin* published by my right hon. Friend the

Secretary of State for Scotland on May 7.'

Mr. Onslow told a Member who asked what action was being taken to interest and encourage oil drilling companies to explore the potentialities for oil and gas in the North Irish Sea, that eight companies already held licences, covering about 1,800 sq. miles, in the North Irish Sea. They were committed to drill eight exploration wells and to carry out seismic surveys under work programmes laid down when the licences were granted.

In answer to a question on the number of persons employed in the DTI to advise on matters of safety concerning exploration of North Sea oil and gas, Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'Nine technical staff and six administrative staff are available to advise on safety questions as part of their wider duties. The technical staff is being expanded.'

Civil aviation research

In answer to a question on the totals of Government spending on research for civil aviation in each of the last five years, Mr. Onslow said: 'Government expenditure on research programmes related to civil aircraft, aero-engines and associated equipment was about £10 million in each of the last three years. This represents an increase of about £1 million a year over expenditure in each of the two preceding years.

'Costs of research related to civil aviation services which were last year borne by the CAA fell to the Government in earlier years. At that time the programme covered combined defence and civil needs and a financial breakdown between these is not possible.'

Non-executive directors

Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked to introduce legislation to require all large public companies to appoint non-executive directors, and to ensure that such non-executive directors exercised an effective supervisory function by defining their responsibility, accountability and functions. 'I have noted with interest proposals commending the practice of appointing non-executive directors,' he replied. 'I hope that these and other suggestions on company structure will receive wide and thorough discussion in connection with my current review of company law.'

South African produce

A Member asked if the Secretary of State would make it his policy to prohibit the import into the United Kingdom of South African produce and products using convict or prison camp labour. Sir Geoffrey Howe replied that the Government would use its powers under the Importation of Foreign Prison-made Goods Act 1897 and the Customs and Excise Act 1952 in appropriate cases.

Scottish shipbuilding industry

An estimate of the additional costs to be borne by the shipbuilding industry in Scotland as a consequence of the new basing point system for steel prices was asked for. Mr. Emery answered that the adoption of the basing point system would in itself lead to little or no additional costs for the Scottish shipbuilding industry overall since Glasgow was a basing point for most of the steels it used.

Industrial development certificates

In answer to a question on the number of applications for industrial development certificates refused in the United Kingdom in 1972; and how this figure compared with the figures for 1970 and 1971, Mr. Grant said: '194 IDCs were refused in Great Britain in 1970, 112 in 1971 and 55 in 1972 but these figures are not comparable because since July 1972 IDCs have not been required in the Development and Special Development Areas and the exemption limits have been raised twice since the beginning of 1970. The IDC control does not apply in Northern Ireland.'

Industrial development

Questions were answered on industrial development in Cardiff, Lanarkshire, Tannochside, and Stockport.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Nationalisation

'It is the policy of HM Government to continue the expansion of the private sector of the economy,' said Sir Geoffrey Howe, when asked to state Government policy towards further nationalisation of public companies.

EEC trade agreements

Sir Geoffrey Howe was asked if the EEC trade agreements with Spain, Israel, Malta and Tunisia, to which the United Kingdom must adhere, had been examined in GATT because of the reverse trading preferences in them; and with what result. Sir Geoffrey said: 'These agreements were examined in accordance with normal procedures. No conclusions have been reached by the Contracting Parties of GATT.'

Trade with Romania

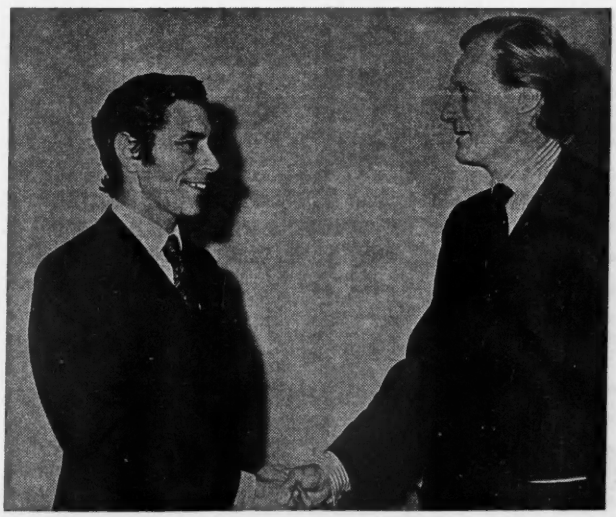
A Member asked how the present trading relationship between the United Kingdom and Romania had been affected by the United Kingdom's entry to the EEC. Sir Geoffrey Howe said: 'Trade relations between the United Kingdom and Romania are at present conducted within the framework of the Long Term Trade Agreement between the two countries signed in June 1972 and valid until December 31, 1974. The applicable framework in the future will be that of the common commercial policy of the EEC towards the East European countries.'

Carpet industry

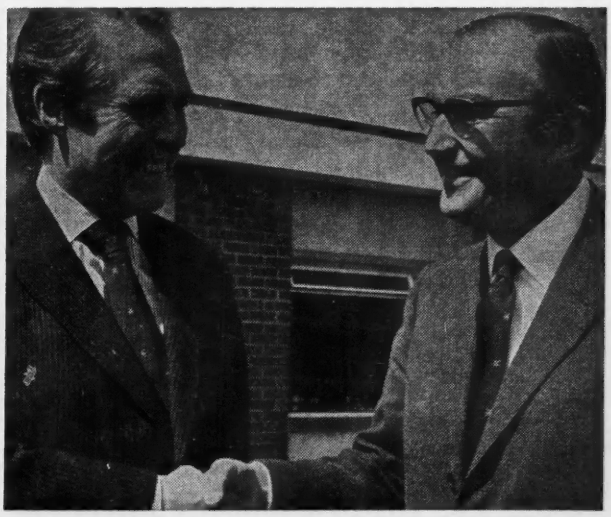
Asked what consideration had been given to the future prospects of the carpet industry, Mr. Chataway said: 'The carpet industry has experienced encouraging growth in recent years and has expanded its exports. It has considerable prospects and I have commissioned a study of the industry's potential markets, in Europe and elsewhere, and of the UK industry's capacity to realise its potential. The study will be carried out, with the support of the industry, by P A Management Consultants Ltd., and is expected to take about six months to complete. I have arranged for a copy of the terms of reference to be put in the Library of the House.'

North Sea oil

Mr. Emery was asked what steps had been taken to keep fishing interests informed of those aspects of North Sea oil development for which the DTI was responsible. 'I give advance notice in all such cases to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, so that those Departments may consult the fishing interests,' he answered. 'In addition all operations which could constitute a hazard to navigation are publicised in "Notices to Mariners".'



Mr. Michael Heseltine, Britain's Minister for Aerospace and Shipping, greets M. Yves Guena, the French Minister of Transport, for a meeting at the Department of Trade and Industry in London. The newly-appointed French Minister was making his first visit to take part in one of the regular discussions on the Anglo-French Concorde supersonic airliner.



Mr. Anthony Grant, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industrial Development (left), with Mr. Hugh T. F. Carter, chairman of Mardon Packaging International Ltd., during a visit to the plant of the subsidiary company Ashton Paper Mill Ltd., Sudbrook, Monmouthshire—an advanced paper mill producing semi-chemical fluting medium, and saving imports by using home-grown materials.

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1963 prices		at 1963 prices			at 1963 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1963	1963	1963	1963	1963							
£m in base year	26,853	20,130	4,994	1,083	1,012	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1968	117	113	139	132	145	161	23	75	41	−271	−648	377
1969	119	113	138	140	150	342	232	26	27	444	−143	587
1970	121	116	142	150	168	266	214	42	13	681	12	669
1971	123	119	141	140	165	48	−153	−4	36	1,051	317	734
1972	126			125 p	178 p	−331	−365	−4	−28	18 p	−692 p	710 p
1970 4th qtr	123	118	144	157	174	82	72	23	15	228	60	168
1971 1st qtr	121	116	140	144	156	95	41	−1	−44	130	−62	192
2nd qtr	123	119	141	140	168	−61	−114	11	38	301	118	183
3rd qtr	124	120	141	140	168	−28	−59	−9	6	360	181	179
4th qtr	125	122	142	134	167	42	−21	−6	36	260	80	180
1972 1st qtr	122	123	145	137	167	−146	−110	−6	−29	59	−122	181
2nd qtr	126	126	144	122	185	−90	−142	−5	31	115	−53	168
3rd qtr	126	128	141	122	175	−95	−114	4	−24	−113	−284	171
4th qtr	130			121 p	183 p	0	1	11	−6	−43p	−233 p	190 p
% change latest 2 quarters:												
on prev. 2 quarters	+3.2	+3.6	−0.6	−6.2	+1.7							
on a year earlier	+3.0	+6.1	+0.9	−11.3	+6.9							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices		Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry		Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students		Unfilled vacancies for adults	Exports	Imports
			at 1966 prices	monthly averages	Index‡	% increase on a year earlier	basic materials and fuel used‡	manufactured products: home sales‡		mid-month count	% of total employees	mid-month count	at current prices	
Base of index	1963	1963	1966		Jan 16, 1962		1963	1963	July 31, 1972				1963	1963
£m in base year			11,549	thousands						thousands		thousands	4,282	4,362
1969	122.9	125.6	102.4	82.3	131.8	5.4	121.4	119.8	71.1	531	2.3	200	165	165
1970	124.2	127.2	103.6	91.4	140.2	6.4	126.2	127.7	78.2	568	2.5	186	184	181
1971	124.9	126.7	103.8	108.5	153.4	9.4	132.6	137.7	88.5	737	3.2	129	205	194
1972	128.2	130.3	110.0	138.6	164.3	7.1			100.9	816	3.6	145	213	225
1971 1st qtr	124.3	126.4	101.8	91	147.9	8.6	129.7	134.4	85.5	634	2.8	150	186	188
2nd qtr	126.1	127.0	103.2	95	153.2	9.8	133.1	137.2	87.1	709	3.1	128	212	197
3rd qtr	125.6	127.1	104.4	116	155.3	10.1	134.1	139.2	89.4	772	3.4	119	214	193
4th qtr	124.6	126.4	105.9	132	157.3	9.2	133.6	140.0	92.1	832	3.7	118	210	199
1972 1st qtr	121.7	125.0	106.3	121	159.7	8.0	135.0	141.6	95.7	870	3.8	124	204	211
2nd qtr	128.8	129.2	108.5	143	162.7	6.2	136.1	143.4	97.7	835	3.7	135	216	216
3rd qtr	130.1	131.9	111.8	141	165.4	6.5	139.4	146.0	102.2	809	3.6	146	192	215
4th qtr	132.1	135.0	113.7	149	169.4	7.7	148.4	149.1	107.8	754	3.3	176	242	258
1973 1st qtr	135.0	138.1	117.1	145 p	172.4	8.0	164.5 p	151.0 p	108.7 p	665	2.9	229	248	277
1972 Jun	129.2	129.1	109.5	153	163.7	6.1	136.1	144.1	99.6	805	3.5	139	227	217
Jul	129.7	131.6	112.5	127	164.2	5.8	137.3	144.9	100.0	807	3.5	141	209	198
Aug	129.6	131.7	111.9	156	165.5	6.6	139.6	146.0	103.5	808	3.6	147	137	182
Sep	131.1	132.3	111.0	139	166.4	7.0	141.2	147.0	106.8	812	3.6	150	230	264
Oct	131.3	133.7	112.4	149	168.7	7.9	144.8	148.2	107.6	779	3.4	163	251	260
Nov	132.2	135.1	113.0	157	169.3	7.6	147.5	149.1	108.2	756	3.3	177	239	261
Dec	132.9	136.2	115.2	142	170.2	7.7	152.9	149.7	108.4	727	3.2	188	235	255
1973 Jan	132.8	134.9	114.2	154	171.3	7.7	158.7	150.3	108.4	703	3.1	201	247	264
Feb	135.3	138.5	117.1	146	172.4	7.9	165.0	151.1	108.9	660	2.9	238	252	269
Mar	137.0	140.9	119.4	136	173.4	8.2	169.9 p	151.7 p	109.5	630	2.8	254	246	298
Apr				125 p	176.7	9.2	169.0 p	149.5 p	111.8 p	617 p	2.7 p	275 p	267 p	275 p
% change latest 3 months:														
on prev. 3 months	+2.2	+2.3	+3.0	−9.9	+2.3		+9.8	+0.7	+1.8	−12.8		+34.5	+6.2	+8.0
on a year earlier	+10.9	+10.5	+10.0	+13.9	+8.4		+24.3	+6.1	+14.1	−16.8		+97.9	+23.4	+29.2

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted (§) On a balance of payments basis.

MOTOR INDUSTRY

Vehicle production in April

Summary

PRODUCTION of motor vehicles was again significantly affected by industrial disputes. The average weekly rate of car production continued appreciably lower than a year ago, and for the three months February to April output was sharply lower, seasonally adjusted, than in the preceding three months. Output of commercial vehicles followed a similar pattern.

Cars

In the four-week period ending April 28, the total number of passenger cars produced was 126,267. This was 13 per cent lower than the number produced in the comparable four-week period in 1972. This reduction affected both the home and export markets which showed decreases of 13 and 14 per cent respectively on a year ago.

SYMBOLS USED IN ALL STATISTICAL TABLES

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	ø fifty-three week period

In seasonally adjusted terms, production for the latest three months was 23 per cent down on that for the preceding three months. The decrease was more marked for the home market.

Commercial vehicles

Total commercial vehicles produced in the four-week period ending April 28 were 30,233. This was nearly 5 per cent down on the

(*continued on next page*)

TABLE 1. RECORDED PRODUCTION

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and unassembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery operated road vehicles are excluded.

Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

		Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
	No. of weeks	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1966	52	978,684	624,995	1,603,679	30,840	260,614	178,061	438,675	8,436
1967	52	988,273	563,740	1,552,013	29,846	245,692	139,414	385,106	7,406
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52								
1972 1st quarter	13	312,399	167,804	480,203	36,939	63,793	31,477	95,270	7,328
2nd quarter	13	346,472	167,594	514,066	39,544	71,914	39,573	111,487	8,576
3rd quarter	13	277,386	118,992	396,378	30,491	53,114	27,161	80,275	6,175
4th quarter	13	371,624	159,040	530,664	40,820	83,828	37,259	121,087	9,314
1973 1st quarter	13	320,051	159,637	479,688	36,899	69,954	36,346	106,300	8,177
2nd quarter	13								
3rd quarter	13								
4th quarter	13								
1972 January	4	92,654	47,901	140,555	35,139	21,543	9,339	30,882	7,721
February	4	83,678	47,851	131,529	32,882	17,052	8,324	25,376	6,344
March	5	136,067	72,052	208,119	41,624	25,198	13,814	39,012	7,802
April	4	92,248	52,839	145,087	36,272	20,258	11,469	31,727	7,932
May	4	116,373	55,935	172,308	43,077	24,726	13,843	38,569	9,642
June	5	137,851	58,820	196,671	39,334	26,930	14,261	41,191	8,238
July	4	70,488	31,412	101,900	25,475	14,628	7,364	21,992	5,498
August	4	85,880	32,751	118,631	29,658	15,019	6,873	21,892	5,473
September	5	121,018	54,829	175,847	35,169	23,467	12,924	36,391	7,278
October	4	117,734	50,786	168,520	42,130	25,617	11,029	36,646	9,162
November	4	125,118	49,527	174,645	43,661	28,866	12,194	41,060	10,265
December	5	128,772	58,727	187,499	37,500	29,345	14,036	43,381	8,676
1973 January	5	135,970	62,089	198,059	39,612	28,419	12,597	41,016	8,203
February	4	89,426	48,590	138,016	34,504	21,401	12,054	33,455	8,364
March	4	94,655	48,958	143,613	35,903	20,134	11,695	31,829	7,957
April	4	80,647	45,620	126,267	31,567	18,955	11,278	30,233	7,558
May	5								
June	4								
July	4								
August	5								
September	4								
October	5								
November	4								
December	4								

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VEHICLE PRODUCTION
continued

figure for April 1972, mainly reflecting lower output for the home market. However, production for the first four months of 1973 is 7½ per cent higher than for the corresponding period of 1972.

Output of commercial vehicles for the three months February to April was 15 per cent lower, seasonally adjusted, than in the preceding three months (bottom line of table 2). The decrease was almost entirely in the home market.

TABLE 2. PRODUCTION—SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays) but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and in the previous three months give a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGES — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1966	82	52	134	21.7	14.8	36.6
1967	82	47	129	20.5	11.6	32.1
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	14.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973						
1972 1st quarter	94	50	144	19.7	9.5	29.2
2nd quarter	106	51	157	22.1	12.4	34.5
3rd quarter	111	48	159	21.4	11.0	32.4
4th quarter	125	55	180	27.7	12.2	39.9
1973 1st quarter	96	48	144	21.4	11.1	32.5
2nd quarter						
3rd quarter						
4th quarter						
1972 January	90	50	140	20.9	9.4	30.3
February	82	44	126	17.1	7.9	25.0
March	110	57	167	21.0	11.3	32.3
April	94	52	146	20.8	11.8	32.6
May	112	53	165	23.9	13.5	37.4
June	112	47	159	21.7	11.8	33.5
July	110	47	157	22.4	10.5	32.9
August	114	44	158	21.2	10.3	31.5
September	110	53	163	20.4	12.2	32.6
October	118	55	173	26.0	11.4	37.4
November	132	53	185	29.5	12.1	41.6
December	124	58	182	27.7	13.1	40.8
1973 January	107	52	159	22.1	10.1	32.2
February	88	45	133	21.5	11.4	32.9
March	94	47	141	20.6	11.7	32.3
April	85	45	130	19.9	11.8	31.7
May						
June						
Average of:						
Nov. 1972-Jan. 1973	121	54	175	26.4	11.8	38.2
Feb.-Apr. 1973	89	46	135	20.7	11.6	32.3
Percentage change	−26	−16	−23	−22	−1	−15

Index of retail prices for April

THE index of retail prices for all items for April 17, 1973 was 176.7 (January 16, 1962 = 100). This represents an increase of 1.9 per cent on March (173.4) and of 9.2 per cent on April 1972 (161.8).

The index for all items excluding food in April was 172.5—an increase of 2.0 per cent (3.4 points) on March.

The index for food in April was 189.9—an increase of 1.5 per cent (2.8 points) on March.

The rise in the all items index was due mainly to higher charges for meals bought and consumed outside the home and various services, higher local rates charges, and higher prices for tomatoes and most other fresh vegetables, cakes, fish, eggs, and number of other goods. There were reductions in the prices of sweets and chocolates and some other commodities.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1.

	All Items		All items except seasonal food			
				Percentage change over		
	Index January 16, 1962 =100	Percentage change over previous 12 months	Index January 16, 1962 = 100	1 month	6 months	6 months at an annual rate*
1972 November	169.3	+7.6	169.1	+0.2	+4.2	+8.6
December	170.2	+7.7	169.7	+0.4	+3.9	+8.0
1973 January	171.3	+7.7	170.8	+0.6	+4.1	+8.5
February	172.4	+7.9	171.4	+0.4	+3.8	+7.8
March	173.4	+8.2	171.9	+0.3	+3.4	+7.0
April	176.7	+9.2	174.6	+1.6	+3.5	+7.1

* Calculated at a compound rate.

TABLE 2. GENERAL INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES

	Indices (January 16, 1962 = 100)		Percentage change March 20 to April 17
	March 20, 1973	April 17, 1973	
All items	173.4	176.7	+1.9
All items excluding food	169.1	172.5	+2.0
Food	187.1	189.9	+1.5
Seasonal food	213.1	232.6	+9.2
(Other food)	182.4	182.1	−0.2
Alcoholic drink	163.3	164.5	+0.7
Tobacco	141.6	141.0	−0.4
Housing	204.3	210.2	+2.9
Fuel and light	178.3	178.3	Nil
Durable household goods	144.6	145.6	+0.7
Clothing and footwear	148.8	150.7	+1.3
Transport and vehicles	160.1	161.8	+1.1
Miscellaneous goods	169.5	170.8	+0.8
Services	190.3	201.9	+6.1
Meals out	193.5	211.6	+9.4

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade and Industry under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, May 25, 1973.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film. EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered No.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Is this a record?	BR/NQ 36828	22	May 22	MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd.	Peter Fensom Productions Ltd.
Movietone News 2294	BR/E 36739/27/5/78	7	May 25	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
Movietone News 2294A	BR/E 36740/27/5/78	7	May 25	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
Trouble Man	F 36827	99	May 21	Fox-Rank Distributors Ltd.	John D. F. Black Productions
Hitler: The Last Ten Days	F 36829	110	May 22	MGM-EMI Distributors Ltd.	Wolfgang Reinhardt Productions Ltd. and West S.r.L., Rome

Amendments to the Register:

The registration number of the film 'The Night of the Devils' registered on January 15, 1973, has been amended to EC 36582/21/1/78 and the name of maker corrected to Filmes Cinematografica, Rome, Due Emme Cinematografica, Rome and Copercines, Madrid.

The registration number of the film, 'Contempt (Le Mepris)' registered on April 27, 1970 has been amended to EC 34811.

Wholesale houses' sales

SALES by wholesale textile houses in March showed an increase of 13 per cent on a year earlier, compared with increases of 22 per cent in January and February.

The value of stocks at the end of March was 12 per cent higher than a year earlier.

TABLE 1. TOTAL SALES AND STOCKS

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

	Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966	110	–3	..	..
1967	104	–5	..	..
1968	108	4	..	..
1969	103	–5	..	..
1970	107	4	..	..
1971	115	8	..	..
1972	121	5	..	..
1971 2nd quarter	106	10	135	–4
3rd quarter	115	9	148	1
4th quarter	140	4	152	6
1972 1st quarter	102	2	164	11
2nd quarter	111	4	146	8
3rd quarter	123	7	154	4
4th quarter	149	6	169	12
1973 1st quarter	120	18	184	12
1972 March	130	–3	164	11
April	121	6	147	8
May	105	4	151	10
June	106	3	146	8
July	102	14	150	10
August	114	4	150	6
September	154	6	154	4
October	165	6	140	1
November	137	4	167	8
December	145	8	169	12
1973 January	87	22	162	6
February	126	22	169	5
March	146	13	184	12

TABLE 2. ANALYSIS BY DEPARTMENT

Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks(‡)
	March 1973	January-March 1973	March 1973
Women's knitted outerwear, blouses and skirts	–31	–14	16
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	8	1	– 1
Women's underwear	– 3	8	11
Women's hose and children's socks	–29	–21	9
Women's millinery	1	– 2	61
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	–13	5	– 8
Children's wear	–38	–15	24
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	8	16	3
Gloves	–35	–13	–39
Piece-goods and nets	18	7	43
Household textiles	23	30	3
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	45	39	21
Boots and shoes	–10	1	29
Total†	13	16	12

* Including some items not included among the sub-headings.
‡ Values at cost.

Production in the cotton industry

THE volume of production in the cotton industry (including processing of man-made continuous filament yarns and finishing) in February 1973 was 39 per cent more than in February 1972. Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in the period January to February 1973 the amount of cloth woven was 6 per cent more than in the corresponding period of last year. Production of single yarn was 21 per cent more and the amount of doubled yarn was 17 per cent more.

PRODUCTION IN THE COTTON INDUSTRY

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn(†)		Doubled yarn		Processed filament yarn	Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Textured yarn (§)	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	Million lb.					Million lin. yards	
1963	488.7	127.0	131.4	107.0	..	1,014.1	560.3
1964	508.1	145.9	136.1	120.0	40.7	1,033.1	610.1
1965	484.8	142.5	131.5	120.3	47.5	1,015.0	624.4
1966	455.7	136.2	123.1	110.2	62.2	915.3	616.6
1967	383.8	124.8	108.1	105.2	78.4	745.0	529.8
1968	377.4	148.7	110.0	114.6	113.6	730.7	554.8
1969	366.4	161.3	103.2	134.3	150.5	723.4	588.5
1970	349.8	170.7	95.2	126.3	181.7	686.4	529.6
1971	293.2	183.6	187.3		213.0	611.4	524.7
1972	267.6	180.2	166.2		**	561.0	513.8
1971 July	4.8	2.9	3.4		3.3	7.3	7.4
August	5.6	3.7	3.5		3.6	12.0	10.2
September*	4.8	3.2	2.9		3.8	10.8	9.1
October	6.0	4.0	3.8		4.6	12.7	11.2
November	5.9	3.8	3.7		4.7	12.6	11.3
December*	4.5	2.9	2.9		3.9	10.6	9.3
1972 January	5.7	3.6	3.5		**	11.6	10.9
February	4.1	2.4	2.7		**	9.3	8.7
March*	5.1	3.6	3.2		**	11.1	10.2
April	5.4	3.8	3.3		**	11.8	10.6
May	5.7	4.0	3.6		**	12.2	11.1
June*	4.4	3.2	2.8		**	11.6	9.7
July	4.7	3.1	2.8		**	6.9	7.2
August*	5.4	3.8	3.2		**	11.3	9.8
September	4.5	3.0	2.9		**	9.8	9.2
October	5.9	4.0	3.7		**	11.9	10.9
November*	5.9	3.9	3.6		**	11.6	10.7
December	4.9	3.3	3.0		**	9.8	9.4
1973 January*	5.5	3.8	3.5		**	10.2	10.6
February	5.7	4.1	3.8		**	10.9	11.2

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. (§) Deliveries. ** Not available.

'Economic Progress Report' for June

THE June issue of Economic Progress Report, contains the following articles:

Overseas investment—a description of some recent trends in overseas investment, both Britain's investment abroad (outward investment) and investment in Britain from abroad (inward investment).

The changing pattern of retail trade—a chart feature on the provisional findings of the 1971 Census of Distribution in Great Britain which illustrates changes in numbers and turnover of, and number of people employed in, different types of shop since 1961, and shows how the pattern of ownership has changed.

Monthly economic assessment—see also *Trade and Industry*, May 24.

Economic indicators—a full page of charts illustrating some main indicators of the course of the economy 1971-73.

Economic Progress Report, prepared by the Treasury Information Division, is published every month. It contains articles on economic subjects, analysing or giving background to Government economic policy, together with the Treasury's assessment of the economic situation and a table and charts of economic indicators.

Copies are available from Circulation Section (H), Central Office of Information, London SE1 7DU.

TEXTILES

Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries

In the three months ended February 1973 net new orders received by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been 1 per cent less than in the three months ended November 1972; deliveries were 2 per cent lower. Orders-on-hand at the end of February were 4 per cent higher than at the end of November.

These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying table.

MADE-UP CLOTHING

Index numbers of the volume of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)	Net new orders	Deliveries
	December 1962 = 100	Average 1963 Deliveries = 100	Average 1963 Deliveries = 100
1963	107	101	100
1964	112	104	104
1965	137	112	109
1966	114	106	109
1967	124	107	105
1968	148	110	107
1969	143	107	107
1970	155	112	111
1971	184	120	116
1972	194	122 r	121

		Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
		Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1970	1st quarter	140	149	109	114	110	110
	2nd quarter	151	142	115	106	109	110
	3rd quarter	142	151	105	115	110	110
	4th quarter	155	155	121	115	114	112
1971	1st quarter	153	169	118	121	119	116
	2nd quarter	184	183	130	123	113	116
	3rd quarter	161	176	102	112	115	116
	4th quarter	184	184	131	121	118	118
1972	1st quarter	169	181 r	111	116	119	118
	2nd quarter	194	190 r	131	123	117	118
	3rd quarter	178	199 r	112	126 r	120	121
	4th quarter	194	194 r	135	123 r	126	126
1971	August	160	173	81	109	104	116
	September	161	176	132	121	130	115
	October	167	176	143	119	133	119
	November	185	180	153	123	124	117
	December	184	184	96	123	99	117
1972	January	179	179 r	102	116	110	124
	February	173	179 r	109	110	118	110
	March	169	181 r	122	122 r	128	119
	April	174	187 r	131	130 r	122	120
	May	202	199 r	159	138 r	113	118
	June	194	190 r	103	102 r	115	116
	July	179	180 r	93	106	118	123
	August	183	200 r	113	152 r	108	120
	September	178	199 r	129	119 r	136	120
	October	192	204 r	163	136 r	141	126
	November	209	206 r	161	130	134	127
	December	194	194 r	79	103 r	104	124
1973	January	204	206 r	124	141	106	120
	February p	206	214	135	136	132	123

Sales in the carpet industry in March

The daily rate of manufacturers' sales by value in March was provisionally estimated to have been 37 per cent more than in March 1972, assuming 22 working days in both months.

The index numbers below, which are of manufacturers' sales by value, have been adjusted for the length of the working month, but not for non-statutory holidays or other seasonal factors.

The Wholesale Price Index for carpets is shown as a guide to the movement in prices.

	Index of manufacturers' sales of carpets	Wholesale price index
Average for year ended December 1963	100	100
1969—Year ended December	154	114.4
1970—Year ended December	167	119.3
1971—Year ended December	180	125.3
1972—Year ended December	207	134.3
1971—Quarter ended September	168	126.2
Quarter ended December	217	126.7
1972—Quarter ended September	199	135.2
Quarter ended December	258	143.1
1973—Quarter ended March	246	151.4*
1971—September	205	126.4
October	212	126.6
November	227	126.7
December	212	126.7
1972—July	182	132.2
August	184	135.7
September	231	137.7
October	245	137.9
November	267	145.5
December	264	145.7
1973—January	204	150.5
February	261	151.8*
March	274	152.0*

* Provisional.

MAN-MADE FIBRES

Quarterly analysis of production

Production by weight of synthetic fibres in the first quarter of 1973 was 27 per cent more than in the corresponding period of 1972, while production of viscose and acetate fibres was 24 per cent more. Within the total for synthetic fibres, production of continuous filament yarn was 33 per cent more and staple fibre 21 per cent more. Under the heading 'viscose and acetate', production of continuous filament yarn was 25 per cent more and staple fibre 24 per cent more than in the first quarter of 1972.

ANALYSIS OF MAN-MADE FIBRE PRODUCTION

Thousand metric tons (†)

		Total		Continuous filament		Staple fibre	
		Synthetic	Viscose +acetate	Synthetic	Viscose +acetate	Synthetic	Viscose +acetate
1961		66.2	191.3	39.7	79.2	26.5	112.2
1962		83.0	201.5	51.7	80.2	31.2	121.3
1963		105.4	220.8	64.3	85.5	41.1	135.3
1964		126.4	247.9	75.1	96.4	51.3	151.5
1965		148.0	243.0	81.6	98.2	66.4	144.9
1966		174.8	225.1	95.8	90.7	78.9	134.4
1967		194.1	239.1	108.2	90.7	85.9	148.5
1968		268.4	270.8	144.3	97.5	124.1	173.3
1969		291.4	262.5	155.9	96.6	135.5	166.0
1970		336.9	262.5	166.6	90.9	170.3	171.6
1971		357.3	255.7	191.2	85.2	166.1	170.6
1972		373.9	252.6	196.4	67.6	177.5	185.0
1969	1st quarter	71.3	70.6	39.5	25.8	31.8	44.8
	2nd quarter	75.7	68.0	39.4	25.3	36.3	42.7
	3rd quarter	70.4	55.3	37.4	20.2	33.1	35.2
	4th quarter	74.0	68.6	39.6	25.3	34.3	43.3
1970	1st quarter	78.2	68.5	38.4	25.0	39.8	43.5
	2nd quarter	87.4	68.3	43.0	24.6	44.4	43.7
	3rd quarter	84.2	64.5	40.9	19.8	43.3	44.7
	4th quarter	87.0	61.2	44.3	21.5	42.7	39.7
1971	1st quarter	92.5	64.8	49.6	22.6	42.9	42.2
	2nd quarter	89.6	63.6	48.5	21.0	41.1	42.6
	3rd quarter	86.1	61.7	45.9	20.4	40.2	41.3
	4th quarter	89.1	65.7	47.3	21.2	41.9	44.5
1972	1st quarter	88.1	57.7	44.9	14.7	43.2	43.0
	2nd quarter	95.5	66.4	48.0	17.8	47.5	48.6
	3rd quarter	88.5	61.4	46.2	16.9	42.3	44.5
	4th quarter	102.0	67.2	57.3	18.2	44.7	49.0
1973	1st quarter	111.8	71.7	59.7	18.4	52.1	53.3

The heading 'Viscose + acetate' includes triacetate.

(†) From July 1967 the production figures for continuous filament yarn are on an 'actual weight' basis: previously figures were on a 'delivered weight' basis which is approximately 3 per cent less than the corresponding 'actual weight'.

Deliveries in the first quarter

TOTAL deliveries of man-made fibres in the first quarter of 1973 were 24 per cent more than in the first quarter of 1972. Deliveries of continuous filament yarns to the home trade during the first quarter of 1973 were 28 per cent more than in the first quarter of 1972, while deliveries of staple fibre were 31 per cent more.

DELIVERIES OF CONTINUOUS FILAMENT YARNS (*a*)

Thousand metric tons

			Home						
		Total	Total	Broad weaving	Weft knitting	Warp knitting	Industrial purposes (tyres etc.)	Other purposes	Exports as yarn (*b*)
1964		176.9	134.1	39.5	25.8	19.3	43.4	6.0	42.9
1965		180.3	140.7	40.4	25.0	21.4	48.1	6.8	39.6
1966		183.8	149.5	41.1	30.9	20.9	48.6	7.9	34.4
1967		198.4	156.9	34.2	39.6	25.3	48.9	8.9	41.5
1968		238.4	188.9	40.0	54.9	32.0	52.2	9.8	49.4
1969		242.7	193.6	39.2	51.9	35.3	56.8	8.4	49.1
1970		254.8	198.1	35.3	63.7	38.0	53.3	7.8	56.7
1971		261.4	198.7	34.0	69.9	41.4	43.5	9.9	62.7
1971	1st qtr	69.3	53.9	8.6	20.0	10.5	12.7	2.2	15.3
	2nd qtr.	64.5	49.6	8.3	17.1	10.3	11.1	2.8	14.9
	3rd qtr.	60.1	44.6	7.5	15.7	9.7	9.5	2.2	15.5
	4th qtr.	67.6	50.6	9.6	17.1	10.9	10.3	2.7	17.0

			Home						
		Total	Total	Broad weaving	Warp knitting	Industrial purposes (tyres, etc.)	Other purposes	Textured or for texturing for all purposes other than carpets or industrial	Exports as yarn (*b*)
1972		270.1	198.7	38.5	40.4	40.8	10.0	69.0	71.4
1972	1st qtr.	63.3	46.0	8.8 (*c*)	10.0	9.8	2.7	14.8	17.3
	2nd qtr.	65.1	48.6	9.4(*c*)	10.0	10.4	2.7	16.2	16.5
	3rd qtr.	63.2	46.9	9.2(*c*)	9.3	9.3	1.8	17.3	16.3
	4th qtr.	78.5	57.2	11.2(*c*)	11.1	11.3	2.9	20.7	21.4
1973	1st qtr.	82.4	59.0	11.3(*c*)	12.3	11.7	3.0	20.7	23.4

(*a*) The classification of end uses was revised in January 1968 and the figures for deliveries to individual industries 1968 to 1971 might not be fully comparable with those for earlier years. From January 1972 a further reclassification was introduced: deliveries of textured yarns and yarns for texturing, which were previously included in the figures for individual industries, are shown separately from the first quarter 1972.

(*b*) The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ from the totals recorded as exports in the monthly trade accounts.

(*c*) Includes 4.5 thousand metric tons for carpets and rugs.

DELIVERIES OF STAPLE FIBRE (*a*)

Thousand metric tons

			Home					
		Total	Total	Cotton spinning	Wool spinning	Flax spinning	Other systems and sundries	Exports (*b*)
1964		208.6	158.6	62.0	57.8	17.4	21.5	50.1
1965		204.4	151.8	57.0	56.9	13.3	24.5	52.7
1966		204.5	147.6	52.1	57.0	12.8	25.6	57.0
1967		234.5	152.9	47.9	58.2	19.1	27.8	81.6
1968		282.4	173.1	52.3	58.2	26.3	36.3	109.3
1969		299.3	169.2	51.1	51.5	28.0	38.6	130.1
1970		329.4	191.4	57.6	57.1	31.5	45.2	138.1
1971		338.7	185.9	59.6	50.1	29.3	46.9	152.9
1971	1st qtr.	88.7	49.4	16.8	13.2	6.9	12.5	39.3
	2nd qtr.	82.4	45.2	15.0	12.5	6.3	11.5	37.2
	3rd qtr.	82.1	41.8	13.0	11.1	7.1	10.7	40.2
	4th qtr.	85.6	49.4	14.9	13.3	9.0	12.3	36.2

			Home				
		Total	Total	Cotton spinning	Wool spinning	Other systems and sundries	Exports (*b*)
1972		363.9	186.4	49.5	33.4	103.5	177.5
1972	1st qtr.	89.0	43.1	11.5	7.4	24.3	45.9
	2nd qtr.	95.9	50.4	13.6	8.7	28.2	45.5
	3rd qtr.	83.2	43.2	11.0	8.0	24.2	40.1
	4th qtr.	95.7	49.7	13.4	9.4	26.8	46.0
1973	1st qtr.	106.6	56.7	14.9	12.0	29.8	50.0

(*a*) The classification of end uses was revised in January 1972, and the figures for deliveries to individual industries from the first quarter 1972 are not comparable with those for earlier years.

(*b*) The figures refer to deliveries from the industry direct for export and may differ from the totals recorded as exports in the monthly trade accounts.

Production in March

IN the three months ended March 1973 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted was estimated to have been 4 per cent more than in the three months ended December 1972. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in March was 29 per cent higher than in March 1972 with output of continuous filament 48 per cent more and staple fibre 18 per cent more.

MAN-MADE FIBRE PRODUCTION

Thousand metric tons (†)

		Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1964		374.3	171.5	202.8
1965		391.0	179.8	211.2
1966		399.9	186.6	213.3
1967		433.2	198.9	234.4
1968		539.1	241.8	297.4
1969		553.9	252.5	301.5
1970		599.4	257.6	341.9
1971		613.1	276.4	336.7
1972		626.5	264.0	362.5
1971	1st quarter	157.2	72.1	85.1
	2nd quarter	153.2	69.5	83.7
	3rd quarter	147.8	66.3	81.5
	4th quarter	154.8	68.5	86.4
1972	1st quarter	145.7	59.6	86.2
	2nd quarter	161.9	65.8	96.0
	3rd quarter	149.8	63.1	86.7
	4th quarter	169.1	75.4	93.6
1972	January	48.0	22.6	25.3
	February	45.2	17.1	28.1
	March	52.6	19.8	32.7
	April	52.3	20.3	32.0
	May	56.4	22.9	33.5
	June	53.2	22.7	30.5
	July	51.0	20.6	30.4
	August	48.5	20.2	28.3
	September	50.3	22.3	28.0
	October	56.1	25.8	30.3
	November	56.2	24.7	31.4
	December	56.8	24.9	31.9
1973	January	60.0	25.8	34.2
	February	55.5	22.8	32.7
	March	67.9	29.4	38.5

(†) From July 1967, the production figures for continuous filament yarn are on an 'actual weight' basis; previously figures were on a 'delivered weight' basis which is approximately 3 per cent less than the corresponding 'actual weight'

(*continued on next page*)

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MAN-MADE FIBRE PRODUCTION
continued

INDEX OF THE VOLUME OF PRODUCTION 1963=100

1964	117	
1965	129	
1966	142	
1967	154	
1968	201	
1969	213	
1970	238	
1971	252	
1972	257	

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1971 1st quarter	263	252
2nd quarter	253	244
3rd quarter	241	257
4th quarter	250	254
1972 1st quarter	241	231
2nd quarter	262	253
3rd quarter	243	257
4th quarter	281	286
1972 January	250	242
February	230	218
March	243	233
April	253	240
May	265	253
June	267	266
July	237	244
August	232	263
September	260	266
October	277	284
November	284	278
December	282	297
1973 January	298	289
February	298	282
March	339	326

The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months but not for holidays or other seasonal variations. The seasonally adjusted figures are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1972, and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1973 are incorporated. Figures for earlier periods were published in the *Board of Trade Journal* dated February 11, 1970 (page 375).

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New companies registered

BELOW are details of new companies registered in Great Britain during April 1973 showing nominal capital. The figures are exclusive of unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

Nominal capital	Total	Public companies	Private companies
Not exceeding £100	4,487	—	4,487
Over £100 but under £1,000	84	—	84
£1,000 but under £10,000	837	—	837
£10,000 but under £50,000	178	—	178
£50,000 but under £100,000	18	—	18
£100,000 but under £1,000,000	11	—	11
£1,000,000 and over	2	—	2
Total Number	5,617	—	5,617
	£ thous.	£ thous.	£ thous.
Total amount of Nominal Capital	12,632	—	12,632

COMPANIES REGISTERED IN GREAT BRITAIN IN 1972 AND 1973

	1972		1973	
	Number	Nominal Capital £ thous.	Number	Nonimal Capital £ thous.
January	4,008	8,032	4,666	8,050
February	3,745	12,111	5,919	7,762
March	4,045	10,671	6,310	21,764
April	4,182	9,931	5,617	12,632
May	4,412	9,158		
June	3,777	5,561		
July	3,696	17,760		
August	5,689	7,827		
September	5,512	7,498		
October	5,096	16,655		
November	5,251	7,084		
December	4,567	15,343		
Total	53,980	127,631		

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in June

THIS notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in June. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned, are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. **Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.**

Publication date	Series	Method and time of release*	Source
June			
1 Fri.	Central Government borrowing requirement (April)	Fin. Stats.	CSO/Treasury
4 Mon.	UK official reserves (May)	PN	Treasury
	Capital expenditure by the manufacturing distributive and service industries (1st qtr.—prov.)	PN	DTI
	Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (1st qtr.—prov.)	PN	DTI
	Investment intentions of manufacturing, distributive and service industries for 1973 and 1974	PN	DTI
	Capital issues and redemptions (May)	PN	Bank of England
5 Tues.	Retail trade (April)	PN	DTI
	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (April)	PN	DTI
	Weekly fuel statement	PN	DTI
6 Wed.	United Kingdom balance of payments (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO/Treasury
	UK banks' eligible liabilities, reserve assets and reserve ratios (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
	London clearing banks monthly statement (mid-May)	PN	CLCB
7 Thurs.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (May)	London Gazette	Treasury
	Import and export unit value and volume index numbers (April)	PN	DTI
11 Mon.	Wholesale price index numbers (May)	PN	DTI
	Turnover of the catering trades (April)	PN	DTI
12 Tues.	Car and commercial vehicle production (May—prov.)	PN	DTI
	UK banking statistics (1st qtr.)	Bulletin	Bank of England
	Money stock (1st qtr.)		
	Construction—output (1st qtr.)	PN	D of Environment
	Weekly fuel statement	PN	DTI
13 Wed.	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures (May)	PN	CSO/DTI
15 Fri.	Index of industrial production (April)	PN	CSO
	Building Societies' receipts and loans (May)	PN	BSA
	Finished steel receipts, consumption and stock changes (1st qtr.—final)	PN	DTI
	Crude steel production (May)	PN	BSC/BISPA
	Quarterly analysis of bank advances (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
18 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-May)	PN	Bank of England
19 Tues.	Weekly fuel statement	PN	DTI
20 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (end May)	PN	D of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (April)		
21 Thurs.	National income and expenditure (1st qtr.—prov.)	PN	CSO
	Unemployment (June—prov.)	PN	D of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (June—prov.)		
22 Fri.	New vehicle registrations (May)	PN	D of Environment
	Retail prices index (May)	PN	D of Employment
	Borrowing by local authorities (1st qtr.)	PN	CSO
24 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (May)	PN	DNS
26 Tues.	National Food Survey report on consumption (1st qtr.)	PN	MAFF
	Weekly fuel statement	PN	DTI
27 Wed.	Central Government borrowing requirement (May)	Fin. Stats.	CSO/Treasury
28 Thurs.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (March)	T & I	DTI
	Housing starts and completions (May)	PN	D of Environment
	House improvement grants (May)		
	Electricity generation (May)	PN	DTI
	Unemployment (May—final)	Gazette	D of Employment
	Employment in production industries (April)		
	Overtime and short-time working in manufacturing industries (April)		
	Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes (May)		
	Construction—new orders (April)	PN	D of Environment
	Car and commercial vehicle production (May—final)	PN	DTI
29 Fri.	Bricks and cement production (May)	PN	D of Environment

* PN = Press notice.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in TRADE and INDUSTRY

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.
Dates before October 21, 1970, refer to articles in the *Board of Trade Journal.*

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civil aviation balance of payments (A)	Mar. 16 1972
trade by air (6M)	Apr. 12 1973
Balance of payments:	
quarterly figures (Q)	Mar. 22 1973
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	Mar. 22 1973
(*See also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcy orders (Q)	May 17 1973
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Television, overseas payments and earnings (A)	Aug. 5 1971
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	Apr. 5 1973
carpet sales	This week
cotton industry production (M)	This week
hosiery production (M)	May 10 1973
made-up clothing, orders and deliveries (M)	This week
orders and deliveries (M)	May 10 1973
wholesale houses' sales (M)	This week
wool exports (Q)	Mar. 8 1973
wool output (M)	May 10 1973
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	Feb. 22 1973
overseas travel and tourism (A)	Dec. 21 1972
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	Mar. 29 1973
index numbers (M)	May 24 1973

Dept. of Trade and Industry organisation etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representation overseas	Apr. 12 1973
Business Monitor titles	Sept. 21 1972
Customs notices of interest to exporters	Mar. 29 1973
ECGD local offices	May 24 1973
Guide to DTI	This week
Official Receivers' offices	May 20 1970
Programme of trade promotions	Apr. 19 1973
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

30p per line. minimum £1.50 payable in advance Box No. 50p
Orders for advertisements should be addressed to HM Stationery Office, Room D92, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1P 1BN
Replies to Box Numbers should be addressed to Box No.—Trade and Industry, Room D92, Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London, EC1P 1BN

TYRES AND WASTE RUBBER. The Sterling Tyre Co. Ltd., are exporters of tyres and tubes and waste rubber. Huge stocks for sale, all grades and sizes, surplus new and good part-worn, repairable tyres, tyre casings for remoulding, scrap tyres for industrial purposes expertly graded to customers requirements credit facilities available for approved customers. The Sterling Tyre Co. Ltd., First Avenue, Montague Industrial Estate, Edmonton, London, N.18. Tel: 01-807 2150.

BALL AND ROLLER BEARINGS, Steelballs and surplus goods tools (etc.) wanted and sold—metal ammo. boxes useful for storage, transport, shelving etc. for sale. Details: R. Pordes, 529B, Finchley Road, London NW3. 01-435 9878/9.

LOCAL GOVT. OFFICER (Public library book order clerk), 49, considering early retirement S.W. England seeks permanent employment (not selling) with responsibility. Write Box No. S. 7386.

'FLASH' Carton Case Opener. The opening of Fireboard Cases, a task of some difficulty, time and waste, effected quickly and efficiently by the use of this simple hand tool. Also Commercial and Industrial Stapling Equipment. The Flash Carton Opener Co. Ltd., Ambleside Avenue, London, SW16 6AD. Tel: 01-769 0308/5960.

GOVERNMENT SALES

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Ships for Sale

Offers are invited for the purchase of the undermentioned tugs 'as lying' at HM Naval Base, Chatham.

'TID 172' Steel, built 1945. GT 54. NT not available. Length (BP) 65 ft. Breadth (mld) 17 ft. 1 in. Depth (mld) 8 ft. Light Displacement 91 tons. Engine: Single screw, steam, oil-fired, compound reciprocating, by John Dickenson and Sons Ltd. IHP 220.

'GRAPESHOT' Steel, built 1945. GT 56. NT towing 1.83 tons and non-towing 17.89 tons. Length (BP) 66 ft. Breadth (mld) 18 ft. 6 in. Depth (mld) 8 ft. 6 in. Light Displacement 108 tons. Engine: Single screw, diesel, by Newbury Diesels. BHP 350.

Copies of form of purchase agreement, further particulars, plans and authority to inspect can be obtained from the Department of Trade and Industry, Room 42, Parliament Square House, 34/36 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2ND. Tel: 01-222 7060 ext. 26.

Offers should be addressed to the Department of Trade and Industry, Room 43 at the above address in envelopes clearly marked 'Offer to Purchase "TID 172" and/or "GRAPESHOT" ' and must be received not later than *noon* on June 21, 1973.

The above information is given for guidance only and any prospective purchaser must satisfy himself regarding actual details of the vessels and their present condition.

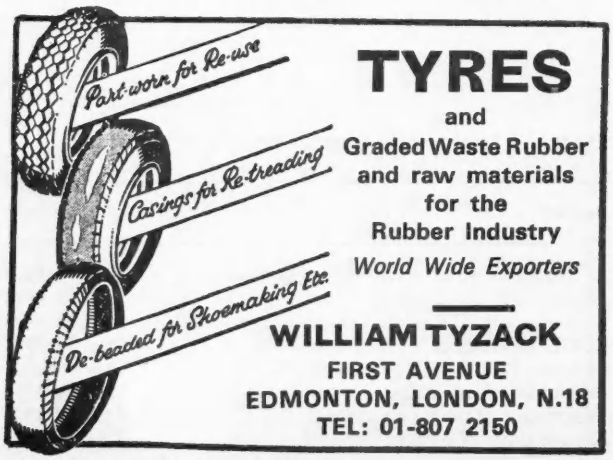
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

June 8, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle

Auctioneers: Harrison & Hetherington Ltd. (Dept. L), Botchergate, Carlisle CA1 1SE (Tel: 26292/3/4)

Miscellaneous stores including, Clothing; boots and shoes; flying boots; haversacks; webbing; metal and wooden boxes; sewing machines; valves; voltmeters; floodlight lamps; junction boxes; wattmeters; power units; generators; oscillators; oscilloscopes; amplifiers; clocks and watches; binoculars; cameras; tape recorders; micrometers; tractor dumper; ambulances; Volkswagen refrigerator van; fork lift truck; bending, grinding, crimping, and flexible drive machines; riveting tools; sanders and various hand tools, etc.



June 14, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: Golden Lion Hotel, King Street, Stirling

Auctioneers: Dixon & Wallace Ltd. (Dept. L), Bank Buildings, Graham Square, Glasgow G31 1AQ (Tel: 041-554 2447/8/9)

Miscellaneous stores including, Greatcoats; raincoats; blouses; trousers; skirts; Arctic clothing; hammocks; haversacks; pillow cases; mattress covers; blankets; sheets; corduroy blouses; kitchen and household equipment; M/T and electrical spares; telephone spares and equipment; photographic spares and equipment; furniture; lockers; charging sets; generators; fork lift trucks; fans; blowers; Landrovers, Dennis fire engine; Bedford truck and mini-bus; clocks and watches; electrical test sets; micrometers; machine and hand tools; scrap leather; scrap webbing; woollen and mixed rags; M/T and tractor tyres; aircraft spares and equipment; lawnmowers; telescopes and binoculars; ball and roller bearings, etc.

June 20, 1973 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Astoria, Roundhay Road, Leeds LS8 4A2

Auctioneers: Bartle & Son (Dept. L), 52 Merrion Street, Leeds LS2 8JH (Tel: 0532-20898)

Miscellaneous stores including, Clothing; greatcoats; raincoats; battledress; shirts; jerseys; boots and shoes; textiles; tents; bivouacs; carpets; camp equipment; household and office furniture; chairs; tables; wardrobes; chests of drawers; compressors; pallet transporters; generators; charging sets; industrial tractors; welding plant; gravity roller conveyor; cable; tyres; electrical signal and wireless equipment; M/T spares; tools; household and kitchen equipment; lifting and towing equipment; batteries, jerricans, etc.

Catalogues of the above sales obtainable from relevant auctioneers two weeks prior to and up to date of sale, price 10p (postal order only).

Sale by Tender Machine Tools

Bench and pillar drills; tool grinders; centre lathes; vertical and universal millers; sawing and shaping machines; miscellaneous equipment.

Location: Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. Permission to view on presentation of tender forms only obtainable from: Directorate of Sales Supply, Sales Supply 6aiv, First Avenue House, High Holborn, London WC1V 6HE.

Tenders must be returned by 10 a.m., June 14, 1973.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS

These announcements are restricted to firms and companies on the lists of Contractors to H.M. Government Departments.

KEF

of Maidstone

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KEF, Tovil, Maidstone, Kent, England.
Tel: Maidstone 58361 Telex 96197.

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Ellesmere Street, Warrington, Lancs., England
Telephone Warrington 39102

Brockenhurst Studios, Fibbards Road, Brockenhurst, Hants., England
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Brazennose Street, Manchester, M608AS;
258 Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2HE;
109 St. Mary Street, Cardiff, CF1 1JW;
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80 Chichester Street Belfast, BT1 4JY;
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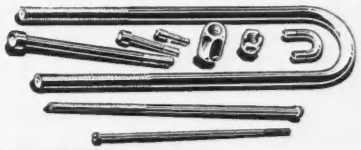

MANUFACTURERS

The Cossentine Bolt & Engineering Co. Ltd.

Industry Works, Farnhill, Keighley, Yorks.
Telephone: Crosshills 2310

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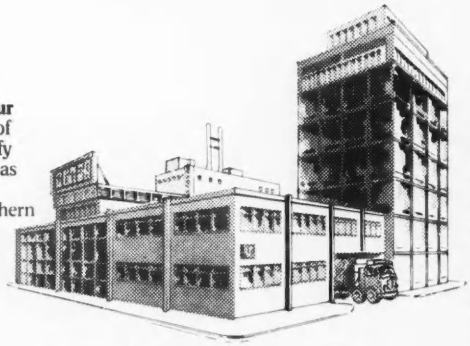
You want your firm to grow

You can get a grant of up to 22% on the cost of new industrial building

This is just one of the many things you should know if you're planning to expand your business. Under the Government's package of incentives for industry your firm could qualify for considerable financial benefits in the Areas for Expansion. These cover the whole of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Northern and North-West England, Yorkshire and Humberside, some parts of the Midlands and much of South-West England.



Substantial Grants

In the Special Development Areas you may be eligible for a grant of 22% on the cost of new building and also 22% of new plant and machinery. In the Development Areas these grants would be 20%.

In the Intermediate Areas a grant of 20% is given on the cost of new building only. These grants are broadly for manufacturing, mining and construction activities. They are not tied to the provision of new employment.

Additional help for projects providing new employment

1. Capital Loans. You could be eligible for these on favourable terms. Or, alternatively, you could get relief on the interest costs of finance from non-public sources.

2. Removal Costs. These are grants which will go a long way towards the costs incurred in moving a business into the Areas for Expansion.

(Certain service industry projects may be considered for these two benefits).

3. Rent-free Factories. There are Government factories available for rent or sale. You could qualify for a rent-free period of two years.

Other Benefits

Other Government incentives available include grants for training new labour and free courses for supervisors and instructors.

The Industrial Expansion Teams—and how they can help you

There are 12 Expansion Teams situated throughout the UK. So, besides giving you detailed information about these financial benefits, they are well placed to help you find the best possible location for your project.

They can give you all the facts, impartial advice, and valuable on-the-spot assistance. Get in touch with them today.

Phone your nearest regional office at the number shown here, or send off the coupon.

Headquarters. London, tel: 01-834 2255 ext. 88
Scotland. Glasgow, tel: 041-248 2855
Wales. Tel: Cardiff 62131 (STD code 0222)
Northern Region. Tel. Newcastle-upon-Tyne 27575 (STD code 0632)
North West. Manchester, tel: 061-236 2171
Yorkshire & Humberside. Tel. Leeds 38232 (STD code 0532)
East Midlands. Tel. Nottingham 46121 (STD code 0602)
West Midlands. Birmingham, tel: 021-643 8221
South West. Tel: Plymouth 21891 (STD code 0752) or Bristol 291071 (STD code 0272)
London & South East. London, tel: 01-828 4355 ext. 50
Eastern Region. London, tel: 01-828 6271 ext. 104 or 61
Northern Ireland. Tel. Belfast 34488 (STD code 0232)

To: The Industrial Expansion Team, Department of Trade and Industry, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU.

Please send me full details of the benefits available in the Areas for Expansion.

Name_____

Position in Company_____

Nature of Business_____

Company_____

Address_____

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T131/6

The Areas for Expansion

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

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